July 26, 2013

Michele Guzik

Superintendent and FOIA Officer

Norridge School District 80

8151 West Lawrence Avenue

Norridge, IllinoisIllinois 60706-3136

Sent via email to:  mguzik@norridge80.net

Dear Mrs. Guzik:

This is a request under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.  I am sending this request to more than 375 public school districts in the Chicago area, including Norridge School District 80.  I have also already sent this request to more than 200 Chicago-area public library systems – all for a series of stories I plan to do on book-ban-requests and other challenges to material in our local public libraries, school libraries, and school classrooms.

·       Please provide me with documents sufficient to show all communications (emails, letters, texts, board proceedings, or notes from phone calls) received by Norridge School District 80, which include a request to reconsider, ban, and/or challenge any book or any other material in any of your school district’s libraries or classrooms.  I am hoping that any existing documents will include the following:

1.     The date of each such request;

2.     The title(s) of each book(s) or other material that was requested to be pulled from your shelves or classrooms, as well as any reason stated by the requestor;

3.     Any response (email, letters, texts, board proceedings, or notes from phone calls) from anyone in your district, your school board, or individual school, to each request;

4.     The resolution of each request (i.e.: the book or material was removed completely; the book or material was partially restricted; the book or material remains on your shelves or in your classrooms; etc.).

·       Please also provide me with any documented threats that have been received by Norridge School District 80, your school board, or any of your individual schools, librarians or teachers, via email, letters, texts, or voicemail recordings, that are related to books or other material kept in one of your libraries or classrooms.

I am requesting all such material from January 1, 2013 to the present.

Because this request is in the public interest, I ask that you waive all fees.  And if you choose to deny any part of this request, please let me know why.

If you have any questions, please don’t hesitate to contact me.  In the meantime, thanks – as always – for your time and attention to this request!

Katy Smyser