

Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L

Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

From: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L

Sent: Tuesday, December 13, 2022 1:09 PM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>

Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Dear Ms. Deckard:

We addressed #3 in our initial response: "Please see the attached public documents responsive to your November 18, 2022 FOIA request which include the requests to remove books that the district office is aware of." And, we included links to public documents that have already been pulled as part of other specific FOIA requests which are of relevance to your request:

- https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1669155330/beaufortk12scus/agdrwxoqw2cnislwreiu/ExplicitBooksComplaint_Redacted.pdf
- <https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1669129660/beaufortk12scus/hw7ekrydbsvpdindzcr/Szalai111822FOIArequest.pdf>

The 77,630 emails noted in our response will need to be reviewed and redacted if necessary to ensure the following FOIA regulations are complied with:

- In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-40(a)(7), the BCSD exempts from disclosure correspondence with legal counsel for a public body and any other material that would violate attorney-client relationships.
- The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (see 20 U.S.C. § 1232g and 34 CFR Part 99) protects personally identifiable information (PII) from students' education records from unauthorized disclosure. The BCSD must redact this information prior to release.

The district has no way of determining if the 77,630 emails contain any of the above information without reviewing each one.

I have consulted with our IT department and they have asked that you please provide us the exact search terms you would like us to utilize so we can accurately estimate the scope of work associated with your request. In an average month, the district sends and receives almost 2.9 million emails. Thus, broad combinations of search terms frequently pull emails unrelated to the requestor's intended search. The more explicit the request is, the more accurate the results will be. The IT department cannot attempt to narrow down the searches as to not unintentionally eliminate any emails that you as the requestor may want.

For example, a list of terms should be in an "AND" or "OR" statement but can also be both. AND/OR statements should also be included in the request for email addresses and dates requested. The more terms listed in an "OR" statement for example, the more emails will be retrieved. And by contrast, the more terms in an "AND" statement the more the search will limit results. Again, the more detailed the request the better.

If you don't agree with the search terms we used that were clearly delineated in our response to you, please narrow your request and send us more specific search terms to include information about each public record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the records and resubmit your request. Our IT department is more than willing to run the exact search terms that you request.

As is, the BCSD estimates search, retrieval, and redaction, if necessary, of the emails will require 776 hours, for an estimated cost of \$34,889 plus 6 cents per copy for a total cost of \$39,547. Costs may increase or decrease. This is based on the retrieval, review, and redaction of approximately 100 emails per hour, based on the hourly rate of our employee who would perform this task, which is \$44.96.

Please either provide the 25% deposit or send us your refined search terms with more specificity as noted above so we can move forward with processing your request.

Kind regards,
Candace

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, December 8, 2022 6:49 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; taylor@harrisonfirm.com
Subject: Fw: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Dear Ms. Bruder,

Kindly respond to my email, in reply to yours, where I inquired:

What exemption(s) are you claiming to do these redactions?

And, I do not believe there are over 77,000 emails germane to my original request (item # 3/FOIA attached), which was as follows:

3. Copy of any/all requests to remove books, from September 1, 2022 - today, to include any that lists the book "Stamped", along with a completed "Request For Reconsideration Of School Library Materials Form(s)"

Unless the District is claiming they received over 77,000 email requests to remove books from September 1-November 18, 2022?

Hope that helps narrow things down. Also, please provide a breakdown of the costs for the estimate you provided in the amount of \$39,547.

Thank you, Mare Deckard

----- Forwarded Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Rowland, Gillian C <gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Sent: Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 12:10:17 PM EST
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

What exemption(s) are you claiming to do these redactions? Thank you, Mare Deckard

On Tuesday, December 6, 2022 at 08:39:31 AM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Good morning, Ms. Deckard:

In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-30(B), the public body may establish and collect reasonable fees not to exceed the actual cost of the search, retrieval, and redaction of records.

The 77,630 emails noted in our response have not yet been retrieved or redacted. If you would like to come and inspect these emails, please provide the 25% deposit so we can move forward with processing your request.

Kind regards,

Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.

Director of Communications

Beaufort County School District

843-322-2432 (office)

843-941-9178 (cell)

candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us



From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, December 5, 2022 5:09 PM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Cc: Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Dear Ms. Bruder,

Thank you for your reply. Pursuant to SC FOIA 30-4-30 I wish to inspect these emails you referenced at the District's office, to determine which ones I would like copied. Please inform me of the date and time, and where this inspection will take place. As to Dr. Rodriguez's appointments, I am now in possession of the information I was seeking so kindly disregard item # 2 of the FOIA, below. Thank you, Mare D.

On Monday, December 5, 2022 at 04:23:41 PM EST, Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder-brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:

Dear Ms. Deckard,

Please see the attached public documents responsive to your November 18, 2022 FOIA request which include the requests to remove books that the district office is aware of.

Additionally, please see the below links for public documents that have already been pulled as part of other specific FOIA requests which are of relevance to your request:

https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1669155330/beaufortk12scus/agdrwxoqw2cnislwreiu/ExplicitBooksComplaint_Redacted.pdf

<https://resources.finalsite.net/images/v1669129660/beaufortk12scus/hw7ekrydbsvpdindzcert/Szalai111822FOIArequest.pdf>

A more broad search was done with the following terms:

all:("book" OR "books")

AND

all:("challenge" OR "review" OR "removal" OR "reclassification" OR "reconsideration of instructional and library materials" OR "book challenges" OR "Request for reconsideration of materials" OR "Request for review of building level recommendation" OR "book ban")

AND

Sept 1 - Nov 18

This search has returned 77,630 emails. In accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-30(B), the BCSD estimates search, retrieval, and redaction, if necessary, of documents to respond to your request will require 776 hours, for an estimated cost of \$34,889 plus 6 cents per copy for a total cost of \$39,547. Costs may increase or decrease. A 25% deposit of the total reasonably anticipated cost is required before work will begin on your request. Please make all checks out to the Beaufort County School District and send to my attention. As your request is extremely broad, in order to lower the cost you may wish to consider narrowing your request to be more specific to include information about each record sought, such as the date, title or name, author, recipients, and subject matter of the records and resubmit your request. Please indicate the specific terms you wish for us to search as part of your request.

Please note that the November 29, 2022 entry on Dr. Rodriguez's calendar is redacted pursuant to the personal privacy exemption of S.C. Code Ann. Section 30-4-4(a)(2).

Your request for "[c]opies of all Dr. Frank Rodriguez's speeches and/or presentations, from November 1, 2021 today" is extremely broad. Please be advised that Dr. Rodriguez did not utilize PowerPoint presentations or scripts when speaking to community groups this past year. If you are looking for a different type of presentation, please consider narrowing your request to be more specific to include information, such as the date, location, or subject matter. Otherwise, in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-30(B), we can provide a quote for search, retrieval, and redaction, if necessary, of documents responsive to the broad request. Please advise as to your preference. Thank you.

Kind regards,

Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.

Director of Communications

Beaufort County School District

843-322-2432 (office)

843-941-9178 (cell)

candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us



From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Friday, November 18, 2022 10:51 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

WARNING: This email originated from outside of Beaufort County School District's email system. Do not click links or open attachments unless you recognize the sender and know the content is safe.

 Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Name:	Mare Deckard
Address:	[REDACTED]
Home Phone Number:	[REDACTED]
E-mail Address:	[REDACTED]
Public Records Requested (Description of Documents or Information Requested):	Pursuant to the South Carolina Freedom of Information Act 30-40-10 et. seq., please provide the following: <ol style="list-style-type: none">1. Copy(s) of Dr. Frank Rodriguez's calendar, from November 1, 2021 – today;2. Copies of all Dr. Frank Rodriguez's speeches and/or presentations, from November 1, 2021 today;3. Copy of any/all requests to remove books, from September 1, 2022 - today, to include any that lists the book "Stamped", along with a completed "Request For Reconsideration Of School Library Materials Form(s)".

You can [edit this submission](#) and [view all your submissions](#) easily.

