From: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L
To: [redacted]
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B; Godley, Molly D; Rowland, Gillian C
Subject: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 12:22:50 PM

Dear Mr. Castagnino,

Thank you for clarifying you do not have any legal counsel for your upcoming lawsuit.

The Beaufort County School District Notification of Rights under the Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment can be found here on our website. Your March 8, 2023, FOIA request does not seek to inspect instructional materials or address participation in surveys.

As for the timing of our response, per SECTION 30-4-30 (C) of SC FOIA law, "*Each public body, upon written request for records made under this chapter, shall within ten days (excepting Saturdays, Sundays, and legal public holidays) of the receipt of the request, notify the person making the request of its determination and the reasons for it… If the request is granted, the record must be furnished or made available for inspection or copying no later than thirty calendar days from the date on which the final determination was provided*."

Please see the below responses underneath each item included in your FOIA request:

- **Confirmation each member read each book in its entirety prior to submitting a voting decision on each book, either to remove or reinstate.**
  - FOIA requires the public body to make public records available. In this instance, the District is not in possession of any documents or records responsive to the item you have requested.
- **Decision made by each member to remove or reinstate each book, broken down by each title that said member voted on.**
  - FOIA requires the public body to make public records available. The FOIA does not require agencies to create new documents. Board of Education votes regarding challenged library materials, can be found on BoardDocs for each meeting that the appeals were on the agenda, and the meetings are publicly available for viewing on the Board's YouTube Channel.
- **Each book title should be listed with how each member voted (remove or reinstate)**
  - FOIA requires the public body to make public records available. The FOIA does not require agencies to create new documents. Board of Education votes regarding challenged library materials, can be found on BoardDocs for each meeting that the appeals were on the agenda, and the meetings are publicly available for viewing on the Board's YouTube Channel.
- **Any and all communication between the district, school board members and Superintendent regarding votes on any of the books that were reviewed.**
  - Please provide us with the exact search terms you would like our IT department

to use when running an email search, to include dates. Also, please confirm that by "district" you mean "all employees."

Should you desire to follow the progress of the review committees, the most current school library materials reconsideration information can be found here on our website. This webpage also denotes when FOIA requests have been submitted for individual titles which can be reviewed on the district's FOIA response log webpage.

Regards,
Candace

From: Joseph Castagnino <[redacted]
Sent: Monday, March 20, 2023 8:21 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Ellen Weaver <superintendent@ed.sc.gov>; ellen@ellenforeducation.com
Cc: Cartledge, Wendy B <Wendy.Cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Godley, Molly D <Molly.Godley@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <Gillian.Rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

This has also been submitted to the US Department of Education as a violation of PPRA and FOIA laws.

On Sat, Mar 18, 2023, 12:25 PM Joseph Castagnino <[redacted]> wrote:

> Ms Weaver,
>
> Please see yet another example of the Beaufort County School District attempting to violate federal law by refusing to fullfill a request under PPRA.
>
> On Thu, Mar 16, 2023, 7:10 PM Joseph Castagnino <[redacted]> wrote:
>
> > I never said I have legal counsel, I said for FUTURE legal action.
> >
> > Stop trying to find reasons to not fulfill the request.
> >
> > You are still on the clock and are not violating Federal PPRA laws so I suggest you get me the information by EOB tomorrow.
> >
> > On Thu, Mar 16, 2023, 1:31 PM Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <Candace.Bruder-Brasseur@beaufort.k12.sc.us> wrote:
> >
> > > Dear Mr. Castagnino,
> > >
> > > It was brought to our attention that you referenced your March 8, 2023 FOIA request below in an email message you sent to Board of Education members the same day,

specifically noting that "*I have sent this through the FOIA request form, but I also wanted to send it to the larger group for visibility regarding an upcoming lawsuit against the School Board Members collectively and individually.*"

Once an individual informs us they are represented by legal counsel, the District's practice is that the communication and correspondence from that point forward is between the attorneys. Please let us know who your legal representation is in this matter so the attorneys can communicate moving forward.

Regards,
Candace

Candace Bruder, Ed.D.
Communications Officer
Beaufort County School District
843-322-2432 (office)
843-941-9178 (cell)
candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Wednesday, March 8, 2023 7:21 AM
To: Bruder-Brasseur, Candace L <candace.bruder@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Cartledge, Wendy B <wendy.cartledge@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Rowland, Gillian C <gillian.rowland@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Godley, Molly D <molly.godley@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:	Joseph Castagnino
Address:	[redacted]
E-mail Address:	[redacted]
Public Records Requested (Description of Documents or	As a concerned parent in Beaufort County, I am requesting the following information and detail on the Beaufort County School Board members regarding their

Information Requested):	voting on the “Book Reviews”. Under PPRA and FOIA law, I am entitled to this information without restriction, redactions and any attempted “fees” for collection. Any attempts to do so will be a violation of Federal Law under PPRA. Please send me the following information within the next 10 days: • Confirmation each member read each book in its entirety prior to submitting a voting decision on each book, either to remove or reinstate. • Decision made by each member to remove or reinstate each book, broken down by each title that said member voted on. o Each book title should be listed with how each member voted (remove or reinstate) • Any comments submitted by a School Board Member regarding the review, voting or feedback on each book. • Any and all communication between the district, school board members and Superintendent regarding votes on any of the books that were reviewed. The responsibility of detail and accuracy of this information will rest solely on the Beaufort County School District and the respondent of this request, as this information will be used in a future legal matter regarding violations of South Carolina Law including, but not limited to: • SC Code 16-15-305 • SC Code 16-15-345 • SC Code 16-15-385 • SC Code 63-5-70 • SC Code 17-17-410 I look forward to your compliance with this request covered under SC State and US Federal Law.

You can edit this submission and view all your submissions easily.