Godley, Molly D

From: Godley, Molly D
Sent: Friday, December 1, 2023 3:48 PM
To: Tara Garcia Mathewson; Bruder, Candace L; Cartledge, Wendy B; Rowland, Gillian C
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Dear Ms. Mathewson,

Thank you for sharing the attached report from another district. Our IT department can run a similar report; however, please know that if provided, it would not be entirely responsive to your request as originally submitted for the following reasons.

- We are only able to run a report showing total attempts to connect to specific domains/categories, but not for unique student attempts. (For example, a single student may attempt to hit a category or domain multiple times with each hit counting towards the total number.) As a result, the reported numbers will be skewed as they are not representative of the student body as a whole.
- We are only able to show the top 100 domains blocked, not all domains as per your request.

Please confirm that you would like this instead of what was originally requested so we can adjust your request accordingly.

Regards,

Molly Godley
Communications Specialist
Beaufort County School District Office
C: 843-962-4753
O: 843-322-5933
Molly.Godley@beaufort.k12.sc.us

From: Tara Garcia Mathewson [redacted]
Sent: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 11:32 AM
To: Godley, Molly D <molly.godley@beaufort.k12.sc.us>; Bruder, 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>
Subject: Re: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Hi Molly,

Thank you for this response. I got the attached report from another district that gets web filtering through iboss. Any chance this is a report format you have that could get at the first part of my request? It shows hits and blocks by category across the district's internet activity.

Best,
Tara

From: Godley, Molly D <molly.godley@beaufort.k12.sc.us>
Date: Tuesday, November 21, 2023 at 11:21 AM
To: Tara Garcia Mathewson [redacted]>, Bruder, 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>
Subject: RE: Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Dear Ms. Mathewson,

Please see the below responses to your November 7, 2023 FOIA request.

1. **A list of websites blocked by network filters in the last 30 days, districtwide. The following data should be available for export on the district's filtering system: the website name, the category, and the number of users who attempted to access it.**
    a. *On a daily basis, our district has over 21,500 students and 3,000 employees using devices. Due to the size of this data set, we are unable to effectively export the information you are requesting. Additionally, our reporter is not designed to pull this information in the format requested. Even in a 24-hour period of time, the data set is too large to export and parse through for the information being requested. As such, you may wish to narrow/refine your request by alternatively providing specific web addresses.*

2. **The district web filter's complete blacklist and whitelist, showing which websites are explicitly blocked and which are approved.**
    a. *iBoss is significantly more complex as it combines categories, lists, keywords/keyword expressions, and top-level domain data to block websites, and the district uses a filtering rule set by grade level. Because the district is unable to provide a comprehensive block list for the aforementioned reasons, you may wish to narrow/refine your request by asking if specific web addresses are blocked. (More information on how iBoss works can be found at https://www.iboss.com/.)*

3. **Any school district policies that explain the criteria and the process used to block websites or challenge blocked websites.**
    a. *BCSD's student filtering is centered on categories designated by the Children's Internet Protection Act (CIPA) as well as other categories added by our district in an effort to better tune the device to its intended educational purpose. Please keep in mind that over a quarter million websites are created every day and countless sites are edited or altered. A site that had acceptable content one day may have inappropriate content the next. As a result, our content filtering is an ever-evolving system.*
4. **The contract with the vendor the district uses for web filtering services.**
    a. *Please see the attached public documents.*

Please let us know if you wish to narrow your request so we can provide you with a cost estimate if appropriate in accordance with S.C. Code Ann. 30-4-30(B).

Regards,

Molly Godley
Communications Specialist
Beaufort County School District Office
C: 843-962-4753
O: 843-322-5933

Molly.Godley@beaufort.k12.sc.us

From: Jotform <noreply@jotform.com>
Sent: Tuesday, November 7, 2023 4:00 PM
To: Bruder, 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

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Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Request Form

Name:	Tara Garcia Mathewson
Organization (if applicable):	The Markup
Address:	[redacted]
Work Phone Number:	[redacted]
E-mail Address:	[redacted]
Public Records Requested (Description of Documents or Information Requested):	I am seeking data related to the district's use of web filtering systems. Please share the following: 1. A list of websites blocked by network filters in the last 30 days, districtwide. The following data should be available for export on the district's filtering system: the website name, the category, and the number of users who attempted to access it. 2. The district web filter's complete blacklist and whitelist, showing which websites are explicitly blocked and which are approved. 3. Any school district policies that explain the criteria and the process used to block websites or challenge blocked websites. 4. The contract with the vendor the district uses for web filtering services. Should any of these documents include information that is exempt from disclosure, please use your judgement to redact exempt information and release the rest. Please share these records electronically and send any

spreadsheet files in a .csv or .xlsx file format.

Should you have any questions about this request, I am happy to discuss by phone. I can be reached at [redacted]

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