From: foia@maconreporter.com <foia@maconreporter.com>
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2026 2:39 PM
To: Melissa Bradford <MBradford@dps61.org>
Subject: Freedom of Information Act Request – Ramadan Accommodation Policies

To whom it may concern,

I am a news reporter from Macon Reporter, a media organization committed to providing comprehensive and accurate news coverage on local governmental affairs. I am requesting the following records under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140, preferably in electronic format:

We seek the following records for the time period of January 1, 2026 through the present:

1. **Policies and Guidance**
    - Any and all policies, procedures, guidelines, or administrative directives concerning religious accommodations for students, including but not limited to accommodations related to Ramadan observance.
2. **Ramadan-Specific Records**
    - Any and all records, including memoranda, guidance documents, or internal communications, specifically addressing accommodations for students observing Ramadan.
3. **Prayer Accommodations During School Hours**
    - Any and all records reflecting policies, practices, or guidance regarding student prayer during the school day, including but not limited to:
        - Use of designated spaces for prayer;
        - Permission to leave class for religious observance;
        - Staff instructions or administrative guidance concerning such practices.
4. **Implementation and Communication**
    - Any communications, including emails or memoranda, between district administrators, school staff, or external entities concerning the implementation of accommodations for students observing Ramadan.
5. **Complaints or Requests**
    - Any records reflecting requests for religious accommodations related to Ramadan, and any records reflecting how such requests were handled, including summaries or reports (excluding personally identifiable student information).

As a member of the media, I am involved in gathering and reporting news to the public. Access to public records is essential for me to fulfill my professional responsibilities, which include holding public institutions accountable and providing transparency to the public. Given my role in disseminating information, I believe I am eligible for a fee waiver as a media professional.

Please Note: The requestor is a member of The Coalition Opposing Governmental Secrecy, a 501(c)(3) Non-Profit Missouri Corporation which assists news media companies, publications, and public advocacy groups investigate state and federal governmental agencies and leverages Freedom of Information and Sunshine Laws to pull back the curtain on government actions and help inform the American electorate. For more information, please visit https://stopsecrecy.org/about/

Please let me know if you have any questions,
Owen Wang,
Macon Reporter