

From: **Jeff Axelrod** <jeff@theaxelrods.com>
Date: Fri, Nov 6, 2020 at 9:51 AM
Subject: FOIA Request
To: Corey Bultemeier <Bultemec@wilmette39.org>

Dear Mr. Bultemeier:

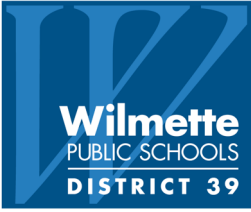
Pursuant to the FOIA, please provide me with the following documents. Please treat each item as an independent request.

1. Assembled lists or spreadsheets created after January 1, 2020 that contain information about families who have withdrawn from the district to either homeschool in any capacity or to attend another educational institution.
2. Documents created after January 1, 2020 that contain information about children who have withdrawn from the district to either homeschool in any capacity, or to attend another educational institution.
3. Documents created after January 1, 2020 that contain information about requests to change from remote to in-person classes or vice versa.

For each of these requests, if the district feels it is unduly burdensome or is otherwise unable to provide the documents within the necessary time frame, please limit the documents to the largest of the following ranges: documents created after June 1, 2020, August 1, 2020, October 1, 2020, and October 23, 2020.

Thank you for all of your efforts.

Jeff Axelrod
Wilmette Watch



Mikaelian Education Center

615 Locust Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091

† 847.512.6000

wilmette39.org

Corey Bultemeier, SFO
Chief School Business Official

bultemec@wilmette39.org

† 847.512.6001

† 847.256.1782

Via Email

Jeff Axelrod

Email: jeff@theaxelrods.com

RE: RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST

Dear Mr. Axelrod:

Thank you for writing to Wilmette Public Schools District No. 39 (“District”) with your requests for information pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act* (“FOIA”), 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, received November 6, 2020.

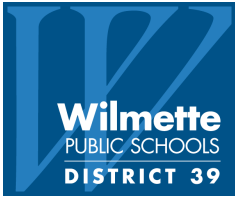
Your requests are restated below:

Pursuant to the FOIA, please provide me with the following documents. Please treat each item as an independent request.

1. Assembled lists or spreadsheets created after January 1, 2020 that contain information about families who have withdrawn from the district to either homeschool in any capacity or to attend another educational institution.
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3. Documents created after January 1, 2020 that contain information about requests to change from remote to in-person classes or vice versa.

For each of these requests, if the district feels it is unduly burdensome or is otherwise unable to provide the documents within the necessary time frame, please limit the documents to the largest of the following ranges: documents created after June 1, 2020, August 1, 2020, October 1, 2020, and October 23, 2020.

Under FOIA, a public body may extend the time to respond to a FOIA request by up to 5 business days for a limited number of reasons. 5 ILCS 140/3(e). We are extending the time to respond to your request by 5 business days for the following reason: additional time is needed to complete our review.



As the District's FOIA Officer, I am responsible for this response to your FOIA request. If I have misunderstood your request in any way, please clarify your request in writing to me.

You have the right to have this response reviewed by the Public Access Counselor ("PAC") at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 days of the date of this letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of any denial by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely,

Corey Bultemeier
FOIA Officer

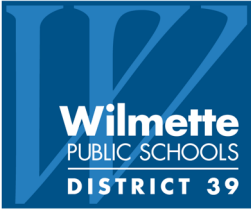
From: **Jeff Axelrod** <jeff@theaxelrods.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 4:35 PM
Subject: FOIA Request #3
To: Corey Bultemeier <Bultemec@wilmette39.org>

Hi Corey,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, send me, from January 1, 2020 to the present, any documentation about suspected or confirmed COVID-19 exposure, suspected, or confirmed cases for D39 students. Identifying information not necessary, but dates of exposure (approximate if you deem necessary) and if you deem permissible, the school at which the student attended.

Thank you for all of your efforts,
Jeff

(All of today's FOIA requests are on behalf of Wilmette Watch as usual)



Mikaelian Education Center

615 Locust Avenue
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† 847.512.6000

wilmette39.org

Corey Bultemeier, SFO
Chief School Business Official

bultemec@wilmette39.org

t 847.512.6001

f 847.256.1782

November 6, 2020

Via Email

Jeff Axelrod

Email: jeff@theaxelrods.com

RE: RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST

Dear Mr. Axelrod:

Thank you for writing to Wilmette Public Schools District No. 39 (“District”) with your request for information pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act* (“FOIA”), 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, received October 29, 2020.

Your request is restated below:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, send me, from January 1, 2020 to the present, any documentation about suspected or confirmed COVID-19 exposure, suspected, or confirmed cases for D39 students. Identifying information not necessary, but dates of exposure (approximate if you deem necessary) and if you deem permissible, the school at which the student attended.

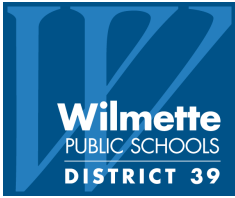
Your request is denied in part and granted in part. The District was unable to locate responsive documents for the period of time beginning January 1, 2020 and ending September 7, 2020. For the remaining period, information regarding the number of student cases of COVID-19 is publicly available on the District’s website at:

<http://wilmette39.org/cms/One.aspx?portalId=360930&pageId=43941797>

including the letters posted under “COVID-19 Communications.”

Although we have not denied you access to any existing documents, you may have the right to have this response reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 South 2nd Street
Springfield, Illinois 62706
Fax: 217-782-1396
E-mail: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us



If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 days of the date of this letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of any denial by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

As the District's FOIA Officer, I am responsible for this response to your FOIA request. If I have misunderstood your request in any way, please clarify your request in writing to me.

Sincerely,

Corey Bultemeier
FOIA Officer

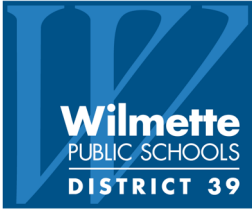
672806_1

From: **Jeff Axelrod** <jeff@theaxelrods.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 4:31 PM
Subject: FOIA Request #2
To: Corey Bultemeier <Bultemec@wilmette39.org>

Hi Corey,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please send me a list of staff who have requested and/or received leaves of absence for any reason along with the dates and copies of any correspondence from staff or other documents that explain the leave of absence request, as well as whether or not they were granted. Please include any documents that were created from January 1st, 2020 through the present.

Thank you for all of your efforts,
Jeff



Mikaelian Education Center
615 Locust Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091
† 847.512.6000
wilmette39.org

Corey Bultemeier, SFO
Chief School Business Official

bultemec@wilmette39.org
t 847.512.6001
f 847.256.1782

November 6, 2020

Via Electronic Mail

Jeff Axelrod
jeff@theaxelrods.com

RE: FOIA 5-DAY EXTENSION NOTICE

Dear Mr. Axelrod:

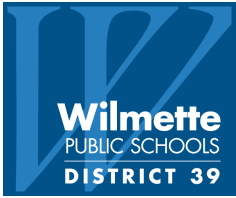
Thank you for writing to Wilmette Public Schools District No. 39 with your request for information pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act* (“FOIA”), 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, received October 29, 2020.

Your original request is restated below:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please send me a list of staff who have requested and/or received leaves of absence for any reason along with the dates and copies of any correspondence from staff or other documents that explain the leave of absence request, as well as whether or not they were granted. Please include any documents that were created from January 1st, 2020 through the present.

Under FOIA, a public body may extend the time to respond to a FOIA request by up to 5 business days for a limited number of reasons. 5 ILCS 140/3(e). We are extending the time to respond to your request by 5 business days for the following reasons:

1. The requested records require examination and evaluation by personnel having the necessary competence and discretion to determine if they are exempt from disclosure under Section 7 of this Act or should be revealed only with appropriate deletions; and
2. We cannot comply with the request for records within the 5-business day time limit without unduly burdening or interfering with our operations.



We will respond to your request no later than November 16, 2020.

Sincerely,

Corey Bultemeier
FOIA Officer

672852_1

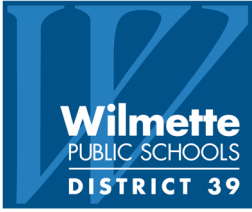
From: **Jeff Axelrod** <jeff@theaxelrods.com>
Date: Thu, Oct 29, 2020 at 4:29 PM
Subject: FOIA Request
To: Corey Bultemeier <Bultemec@wilmette39.org>

Hi Corey,

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please send me a list of staff who have resigned for any reason along with the dates of resignation and copies of any resignation letters from staff or other documents that explain the resignation. Please include any documents that were created from October 16th through the present. It's not necessary to include any documents that were provided in the responses to my prior request.

Please also send me, from October 16th to the present, any documentation about suspected or confirmed COVID-19 exposure, suspected, or confirmed cases for D39 staff. Identifying information not necessary other than job title. It's not necessary to include any documents that were provided in the responses to my prior request.

Thank you for all of your efforts,
Jeff



Corey Bultemeier, SFO
Chief School Business Official

bultemec@wilmette39.org
t 847.512.6001
f 847.256.1782

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615 Locust Avenue
Wilmette, IL 60091

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wilmette39.org

November 6, 2020

Via Email

Jeff Axelrod

Email: jeff@theaxelrods.com

RE: RESPONSE TO FOIA REQUEST

Dear Mr. Axelrod:

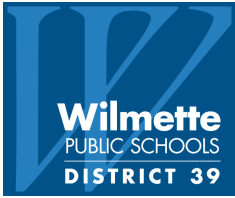
Thank you for writing to Wilmette Public Schools District No. 39 (“District”) with your request for information pursuant to the Illinois *Freedom of Information Act* (“FOIA”), 5 ILCS 140/1 *et seq.*, received October 29, 2020.

Your request is restated below:

Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act, please send me a list of staff who have resigned for any reason along with the dates of resignation and copies of any resignation letters from staff or other documents that explain the resignation. Please include any documents that were created from October 16th through the present. It's not necessary to include any documents that were provided in the responses to my prior request.

Please also send me, from October 16th to the present, any documentation about suspected or confirmed COVID-19 exposure, suspected, or confirmed cases for D39 staff. Identifying information not necessary other than job title. It's not necessary to include any documents that were provided in the responses to my prior request.

Your request is granted. See enclosed responsive documentation. Please note with regards to the COVID staff log, individuals included may have appeared on a list responsive to one of your previous FOIA requests, but are included again due to updated data (e.g. updated COVID test result). The District has redacted records pursuant to the following exemptions:



1. FOIA Section 7(1)(a), which covers information specifically prohibited from disclosure by federal or State law or rules and regulations implementing federal or State law, specifically the *Americans With Disabilities Act* (29 CFR 1630.14);
2. FOIA Section 7(1)(c), which covers “personal information contained within public records, the disclosure of which would constitute a clearly unwarranted invasion of personal privacy,” such as personal health/family information and purely personal matters that do not pertain to the transaction of public business. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(c).

You have the right to have this response reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (“PAC”) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

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Fax: 217-782-1396
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If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 days of the date of this letter. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of any denial by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

As the District’s FOIA Officer, I am responsible for this response to your FOIA request. If I have misunderstood your request in any way, please clarify your request in writing to me.

Sincerely,

Corey Bultemeier
FOIA Officer

Last Name	First Name	School	Position	Status	Date Tested for COVID	Test Results
		School	teacher	cold/flu symptoms	October	
		School	teacher	cold symptoms	October	positive
		School	teacher	cold-like	October	negative
		MEC	coordinator	cold like	October	
		School	teacher	cold/flu symptoms	October	negative
		School	teacher	none- family member with symptoms	October	positive
		School	paraprofessional	none- exposed	October	negative
		School	teacher	None- close contact	N/A	N/A
		School	secretary	close contact	October	
		School	teacher	cold-like	October	
		School	secretary	cough	October	negative
		School	teacher	cold/flu symptoms		
		MEC	Coordinator	none- family member with symptoms		N/A
		School	technology	sore throat	October	negative
		MEC	admin	Close contact of suspected positive c	N/A	N/A
		School	technician	none- family member with symptoms	N/A	N/A
		School	admin	Close contact of positive person		
		School	teacher	cold/flu symptoms	October	negative
		School	Paraprofessional	dizziness	N/A	N/A
		MEC	non-certified	Close contact of positive person		
		School	clerk	none- family member with symptoms	N/A	N/A
		MEC	Coordinator	Close contact of positive person	October	
		School	teacher	none- family memnber with symptom:	October	N/A
		School	paraprofessional	cold/flu symptoms	October	negative
		School	teacher	none- potential exposure	October	negative
		School	teacher	Close contact of positive person		
		School	teacher	Close contact of positive person	October	negative
		School	teacher	cold symptoms	October	positive
		School	teacher	cold-like	October	negative
		School	teacher	close contact		
		School	paraprofessional	sore throat	October	negative
		School	teacher	none	October	negative
		School	nurse	none-close contact of someone who i	N/A	N/A

From: **Kathleen Bowers** bowersk@w mette39.org
Subject: Letter of Res gnat on
Date: October 20, 2020 at 12:44 PM
To: Heather Gowack gowackh@w mette39.org, Vanessa Kovachy kovachyv@w mette39.org



Heather,

Attached is my resignation letter.

--

Kathleen Bowers

Case Manager
Golden Apple 2011
Central Elementary School
Wilmette SD 39
@ms_bowers_39

“Inspire the Children, Impact the World.”

This notice serves as a reminder that any communication sent or received by Wilmette Public School District 39 may be considered a public record subject to inspection under the Illinois Freedom of Information Act.

October 20, 2020

To whom this may concern:

Please accept this letter as my resignation from my role as Learning Behavior Specialist and Case Manager at Central Elementary School in Wilmette School District 39 effective Friday October 23, 2020.

I sincerely apologize for the abrupt timing of this announcement, I will use the remaining time of the week to prepare my students for this transition and ensure the team has updated data for the students on my caseload. I thank Wilmette School District 39 for the opportunities to pursue my interests in numerous areas which have prepared me for future positions.

Please contact me with any questions and I will be happy to help with any preparations you need to support this transition for students.

Sincerely,

Kathleen Bowers

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Kathleen Bowers". The signature is written in black ink and is positioned below the printed name.

From: Heather Glowacki g owackh@w mette39.org
Subject: Re: res gnat on
Date: October 22, 2020 at 3:08 AM
To: Joanne Nadler [REDACTED]



Hi Joanne-

Thank you for letting me know- I really appreciate it. I wish you the best.

Heather



On Wed, Oct 21, 2020 at 8:54 PM Joanne Nadler [REDACTED] > wrote:

Hi Heather

This resignation comes to you after considerable deliberation and with much regret. I have F-U-L-L-Y enjoyed working at Central School these past 6 weeks and recently, [REDACTED]

[REDACTED]. This decision came solely down to [REDACTED]

[REDACTED].

I've already discussed this with Taylor Harvey who instructed me to notify you. My final day will be Friday, October 30th, 2020.

Thank you. Be assured, I will do whatever I can to help ease the transition.

Joanne Perri-Nadler