



**OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
STATE OF ILLINOIS**

Lisa Madigan
ATTORNEY GENERAL

February 8, 2011

Ms. Claudia Brennan
Freedom of Information Act Officer
Steger Elementary School District 194
cbrennan@sd194.org

RE: FOIA Pre-Authorization Request - 2010 PAC 6887

Dear Ms. Brennan:

We have received and reviewed the written notice from the Steger Elementary School District 194 of its intention to withhold certain information as exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) of the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 5 ILCS 140/1 et seq., as amended.

Specifically, on April 1, 2010, [REDACTED] submitted a FOIA request to the District seeking information relating to certain candidates applying for admission to the District's National Junior Honor Society.

On April 16, 2010, the District submitted a Notice of Intent to Deny to this Office explaining that a portion of this information sought by [REDACTED] is exempt from disclosure pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) of FOIA (5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f)), which exempts from inspection and copying "preliminary drafts, notes, recommendations, memoranda and other records in which opinions are expressed, or policies are formulated, except that a specific record or relevant portion of a record shall not be exempt when the record is publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body."

On February 4, 2011, the District sent us a copy of the document that it seeks to withhold. Specifically, the District argues that the document they seek to withhold pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) consists of the staff member opinions about the inclusion of certain students into the honor's program.

Determinations

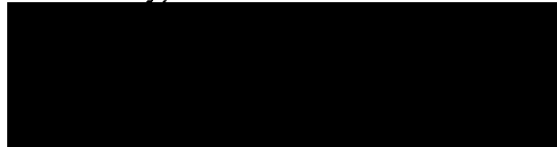
The District's request for approval of its decision to withhold information pursuant to Section 7(1)(f) is approved. Upon review of the document, we have determined that they consist of staff opinions about certain students and properly fall within the scope of Section 7(1)(f).

Additionally, there is no evidence that these documents have been publicly cited and identified by the head of the public body. 5 ILCS 140/7(1)(f).

Based on this analysis, the District has met its initial burden that the document is exempt from disclosure under Section 7(1)(f) and may withhold the document in question.

Should you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (312) 814-5383. This correspondence shall serve to close this matter.

Sincerely,

A large black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Matthew C. Rogina.

Matthew C. Rogina
Assistant Public Access Counselor

cc:

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6887 pre-auth at 7(1)(f) opinions sd