FOIA Officer
Rockford Public Schools
501 7th St., Rockford, IL 61104

Sent via email to FOIA@rps205.com

FOIA Officer:

In accordance with the Illinois Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140), the Chicago Tribune requests your office provide access to the following public records in the possession of the school district dating back to the 2015-16 school year:

• Any records of RPS 205 employees being referred to Rockford Police, Winnebago County State’s Attorney, or Illinois State Board of Education for failure to report suspected child abuse.

• Any records of any discipline the district – or a district employee – might have faced because of failure to report suspected child abuse.

• Any records that would tally the total number of suspected child abuse reports districtwide. These reports could be to any of the following institutions (but not limited to): Rockford Police/Winnebago County State’s Attorney/Illinois State Board of Education and/or DCFS.

If these public records are maintained electronically, please provide them in that format.

In the unlikely event that you claim any portion of the above public records to be exempt from disclosure under 5 ILCS 140, in writing please (i) identify which portion or portions you claim are exempt and the statutory provision or provisions you contend apply; (ii) set forth the reasons for your conclusion that such portion or portions are exempt; and (iii) release the remainder of such records for inspection and copying, redacting only the portion or portions you claim are exempt.

Please provide the information within 5 days, as required by law.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Smith Richards
312-222-5430
jrichards@chicagotribune.com