



Estimated cost to the District for this request: \$100



February 15, 2022

Dani Tietz
Mahomet Daily, Ethos Publishing, LLC
PO Box 823
Mahomet, IL 61853
dani@mahometnew.com

Dear Mrs. Tietz:

On February 8, 2022, Mahomet-Seymour Community School District 3 received a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) request from you for the following records:

- emails from Lindsey Hall to or from members of the Mahomet-Seymour Board of Education from Feb. 3, 2022 to Feb. 8, 2022.

The following documents are responsive to your request and are submitted herewith:

- emails from Lindsey Hall to or from members of the Mahomet-Seymour Board of Education from Feb. 3, 2022 to Feb. 8, 2022.

Pursuant to Section 9(a) of the Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/9(a), you are hereby notified that this decision was made by Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent and FOIA Officer, and that you have a right to review by the Public Access Counselor:

Ms. Sarah Pratt
Public Access Counselor
Office of the Attorney General
500 S. 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62706
Telephone: 312-814-5526 or 1-877-299-FOIA (3642)
Fax: 217-782-1396
Email: publicaccess@atg.state.il.us

You are further notified that you have the right to judicial review as provided in Section 11 of the Act, 5 ILCS 140/11.

Sincerely,

Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent and FOIA Officer

**MAHOMET-SEYMOUR
COMMUNITY SCHOOL DISTRICT # 3**

**SCHOOL DISTRICT INFORMATION DIRECTORY
(Illinois Freedom of Information Act)**

Community Unit School District No.3 is a unit school district located in Champaign-Piatt Counties and serves the students of Mahomet, Seymour and the surrounding area. The District is organized under the laws of the State of Illinois, the Illinois State Board of Education, and the Mahomet-Seymour Board of Education for the purpose of providing educational opportunities to all eligible persons in grades PreK-12.

The District operates the following schools (all located in Mahomet, IL 61853):

1. Middletown Prairie Elementary, Pre K-Second, 1301 S. Bulldog Drive
Ryan Martin, Principal 217/586-5833
2. Lincoln Trail Elementary, 3rd – 5th, 102 E. State
Megan Hunter, Principal 217/586-2811
4. Mahomet-Seymour Junior High, 6th – 8th, 201 W. State
Nathan Mills, Principal 217/586-4415
5. Mahomet-Seymour High School, 9th – 12th, 302 W. State
Chad Benedict, Principal 217/586-4962

The District also maintains an Administrative Center at 1301 S. Bulldog Drive

Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent	217/586-2161
Dr. Nicole Rummel, Assistant Superintendent	217/586-2161
Christine Northrup, Director of Student Support Services	217/586-2161
Heather Smith, Chief School Business Official	217/586-2161

The District is governed by a seven-member Board of Education. The Board meets on the third Monday at 7:00 p.m. in the Board Conference Room at Middletown Prairie Elementary. Members are elected on the first Tuesday, following the first Monday of April in odd-numbered years and serve for four years. Present members of the Board of Education are:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Term Expires</u>	<u>Office</u>
Max McComb	2025	President
Dr. Jeremy Henrichs	2023	Vice-President
Ken Keefe	2023	Secretary
Meghan Hennesy	2023	Board Member
Justin Lamb	2025	Board Member
Sunny McMurry	2025	Board Member
Dr. Colleen Schultz	2023	Board Member

The Board usually operates as a committee-of-the-whole; however, whenever necessary, special committees are formed for specific purposes only to be dissolved when the identified task is accomplished.

Mahomet-Seymour Community Unit School District #3 operates on an annual Operating Fund budget of approximately \$26 million, with the majority (\$23 million) being spent in the Education Fund.

There are approximately 204 certified staff members and 199 non-certified employees.

Illinois Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) Requests

In compliance with State Law (5 ILCS 140/4), each school district is required to post specific information regarding the school district as part of FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requirements. Such information is contained in the documents listed at the following links on the District website (www.ms.k12.il.us). If the information you are seeking is not found in these or other documents posted on the District website, you may request copies of existing documents.

Budget Packet, Annual Financial Report for Publication, Annual Financial Statements, List of Contracts Exceeding \$25,000, Five-Year Financial Projections, Current Tax Levy:
<http://www.ms.k12.il.us/o/district/browse/7005>

District Map:
<http://www.ms.k12.il.us/map-of-mahomet-seymour-school-district>

Employee Agreements:
<http://www.ms.k12.il.us/o/district/browse/7339>

Board of Education Agendas, Minutes, Supplemental Documents, Monthly Financial Statements, Monthly Treasurer's Reports, Monthly Bill Lists: See Board of Education
<http://www.ms.k12.il.us/o/district/browse/7076>

Board Policy Manual:
https://www.boardpolicyonline.com/?b=mahomet-seymour_3

How can I submit a FOIA request?

Requests to inspect and/or copy District public records must be submitted in writing and should be submitted to one of the District's FOIA Officers as found below. Provide a brief description of the public records requested, being as specific as possible. *A sample request form is provided at the end of this document and may be helpful, but the form is not required.* Certain information is exempt from disclosure.

Chief FOIA Officer

Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent
Mahomet-Seymour Schools
1301 S. Bulldog Drive
Mahomet, IL 61853

Deputy FOIA Officer

Dawn Quinley, Administrative Assistant
Mahomet-Seymour Schools
1301 S. Bulldog Drive
Mahomet, IL 61853

What happens after I submit a request?

The Illinois Freedom of Information Act requires agencies to respond to requests for non-commercial purposes within five business days after the District's receipt of the written request. The Act provides, however, that under certain circumstances, the response time may be extended for up to five additional working days. If this happens, you will be notified by letter specifying the reason for the delay. The requester and the District also may agree in writing to extend the time for compliance for a period of their choosing.

The FOIA Officer shall respond to written requests for commercial purposes within 21 business days after receipt. If a request is for a commercial purpose, the requester must disclose this.

What is the fee for duplication of public records?

The first 50 pages of black and white, letter or legal-sized copies are free. Additional pages are 15 cents per page. The District may not charge more than the actual cost for reproducing color copies or copies of other sizes.

What other fees might apply?

Costs related to personnel for searching, retrieval, redacting, will be charged at a rate of \$10.00 per hour above the first 8 hours of labor.

What happens if my request is denied?

You will be informed in writing if your request is denied and the reason for the denial. You have the right to have the denial reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC). They can be contacted at:

**Public Access Counselor
Public Access Bureau
500 S. 2nd Street
Springfield, IL 62706
(217) 558-0486
publicaccess@atg.state.il.us**



Request to Inspect or Copy Records

Use this form to request records that are not already available within the public domain. You are not required to use this form, but your request must be written. This form is offered as a courtesy and a guide to assist you.

**Submit to: Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3 FOIA Officer
Dr. Lindsey Hall, Superintendent
1301 S. Bulldog Drive
Mahomet, IL 61853**

I, hereby request the opportunity to (a) **inspect** or (b) **copy** the following record(s). (Please circle.)

Please describe the record(s) precisely: ___ emails from Lindsey Hall to or from members of the Mahomet-Seymour Board of Education from Feb. 3, 2022 to Feb. 8, 2022.

This request is for a (a) **non-commercial** or (b) **commercial** purpose. (Please circle.)

I understand that the first 50 pages of black-and-white letter or legal-sized copies are free. The copying charge for additional pages is \$.15 per page. Personnel costs can also apply at a rate of \$10.00 per hour beyond the first 8 hours of labor.

D

Signature of Requesting Individual

2-8-2022

Date Request Submitted

217-390-8984

Phone Number

E-Mail: dani@mahometnews.com

Mahomet Daily, Ethos Publishing LLC., Dani Tietz

Name

PO Box 823

Address

Mahomet, IL 61853

City, State, Zip

DO NOT WRITE IN THIS SPACE

Date request received by District FOIA Officer

Signature



Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Re: meet

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 8:09 AM

To: Megan Jones <mjones@ms.k12.il.us>

Cc: James Heinold <jheinold@ms.k12.il.us>, Max McComb <mmccomb@ms.k12.il.us>

Ok--let's do 7:30. I apologize for another evening mtg, I don't think it'll take long.

Lindsey

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 8:06 AM Megan Jones <mjones@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

Ooops! That's okay! I can make Thursday work, preferably after 7 (so I can get my kids to bed :-))

Thanks,
Meg

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 7:55 AM Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

I just realized I sent the initial message to Megan Hunter--sorry!!

Lindsey

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 7:53 AM James Heinold <jheinold@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

I have a wrestling meet but I should be free around 7pm.

On Tue, Feb 8, 2022 at 7:42 AM Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

Good morning James and Meg,

Last night in closed session the board discussed how to proceed ahead with various COVID 19 mitigations in light of the very complicated legal situation that schools find ourselves in right now.

There is going to be a board meeting on Friday evening at 5 p.m. so the board can formally vote on some changes. Since you are willing to meet with individual board members to meet the parameters of the MOU, Max and I would like to meet with you prior to Friday's board meeting.

It will need to be over Zoom---could you possible meet Thursday evening any time after 6 p.m.?

My schedule is very full this week and between my calendar and Max's, this is about the only time we can find.

Thanks!

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3

Office: 217-586-2161

Cell: 309-613-3142

"It's a great day to be a Bulldog!"

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Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Re: Superintendent Search

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Mon, Feb 7, 2022 at 6:32 PM

To: Sunny McMurry <smcmurry@ms.k12.il.us>

Cc: Ken Keefe <kkeefe@ms.k12.il.us>, Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>

This is from the draft minutes, I believe this is the relevant paragraph.

The Board and Dr. Voltz discussed the possibility of the Board seeing the applications of all who apply. While some on the Board favored this approach, others did not, and Dr. Voltz explained why EdLS would not want to proceed that way. The Board indicated they would accept a report from EdLS that contains anonymous, categorized information about any candidates that were not considered by EdLS to be a good fit for the district.

Lindsey

On Mon, Feb 7, 2022 at 6:21 PM Sunny McMurry <smcmurry@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

At the meeting where we discussed this, Ken insisted that he wanted this. There was a lengthy discussion, during which, Ken, you told me you had already heard my opinion and essentially told me to stop talking. That's why I remember this so clearly.

Candidates applied with the understanding that their applications would remain confidential to EdLS. It is absolutely unethical, in my opinion, to now turn around and share those with the board under some guise of remaining "confidential" within the board.

Lindsey, I believe Dawn may have drafts of the minutes. Can you please see if there might be specific details about this conversation and the decision that was made?

Thank you,

Sunny

On Mon, Feb 7, 2022 at 5:34 PM Ken Keefe <kkeefe@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

I would like to have those applications sent privately to the board so we can understand who applied and how ELS chose the slate of candidates.

Thanks,
Ken

On Mon, Feb 7, 2022, 5:09 PM Max McComb <mmccomb@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

Board:

FYI - we ended up at 21 applicants. By comparison Effingham had 12. ELS worked hard to recruit candidates they thought would be good.

--

Max McComb

President, Mahomet-Seymour Board of Education

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Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Dave Johnson

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Sat, Feb 5, 2022 at 6:58 AM

To: Administrators <ms-admin@ms.k12.il.us>, Central Office <centraloffice@ms.k12.il.us>

Pastor Dave Johnson passed away last night.

He wore many hats—Bus driver, trustee on the board for the village of Mahomet, and of course, pastor at Mahomet Christian Church.

Please keep Pastor Dave's family in your prayers.

Lindsey

--

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3

Office: 217-586-2161

Cell: 309-613-3142

"It's a great day to be a Bulldog!"

Fwd: CLIENT ALERT -- Multiple Orders from Sangamon County

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Sat, Feb 5, 2022 at 6:52 AM

To: Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>

Good morning

See the link below for the full text of the order from Judge Raylene Grischow.

Lindsey

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd.** <mlieb@millertracy.com>

Date: Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 7:12 PM

Subject: CLIENT ALERT -- Multiple Orders from Sangamon County

To: <lhall@mscusc.org>



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SCHOOL LAW ADVISOR *client alert*

Judge Grischow issued Temporary Restraining Orders against all defendants including the named school districts, ISBE, IDPH, and Governor Pritzker in both the student and employment cases before the Sangamon County Circuit Court.

The Order is accessible by clicking [HERE](#).

Attorneys at Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd. are working this weekend on legal analysis, strategy, and filings as are necessary over the weekend. We will be in touch before the weekend is out with more information and analysis.

Sincerely,

Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd.

The contents of this newsletter, as well as any and all attached or linked documents, including websites, blogs, handouts, and legal updates, as well as any and all links on these pages should not be construed as legal advice. Individual problems or requests for information should be referred to legal counsel for an opinion based on facts specific to your inquiry.

Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd.

Join our Mailing List

Address: [316 S. Charter Street](#)

Monticello, IL 61856

Phone: 217-762-9416



Miller, Tracy, Braun, Funk & Miller, Ltd. | [316 S. Charter Street, Monticello, IL 61856](#)

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Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

ruling!

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>
To: Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 5:59 PM

Good evening---the judge has just ruled in the Austin case and has struck down the governor's authority regarding COVID 19 mitigations. This is a bit complicated due to the earlier order in the day not granting class action status. We'll review with our attorneys ASAP. I'll keep you updated as this unfolds.

In the meantime, I'm going to be sending this email to parents and staff:

Hello Bulldog Families,

A short time ago, an Illinois judge ruled on a lawsuit filed by more than 700 parents across the state that challenged the current state-mandated COVID-19 mitigations.

I write to let you know that we are aware of the decision and reviewing the implications for our school district. Thank you for your patience and understanding as our district navigates the latest changes to the COVID-19 guidance and rules for Illinois schools.

At this time, we are in the process of reviewing the judge's decision and will communicate with you as soon as possible whether and how this ruling impacts Mahomet-Seymour students and staff members.

Thank you and have a great weekend!

Sincerely,

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools
Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3
Office: 217-586-2161
Cell: 309-613-3142

"It's a great day to be a Bulldog!"



Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

decision in Austin case...just the beginning

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>
To: Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 1:13 PM

Good afternoon

The judge in Sangamon County has issued two orders today and has denied class certification in both the student (the case in which we are defendants) and staff COVID 19 cases.

This would be considered a blow to the plaintiffs' case as it won't be considered "class action" and apply to the entire state.

Maybe more to come today...

--

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools
Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3
Office: 217-586-2161
Cell: 309-613-3142

"It's a great day to be a Bulldog!"

Re: SUPT interviews

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>
To: maxmccomb@remax.net

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 2:24 PM

No, minutes aren't taken, but audio recording is required.

Unless you want Dawn in there--up to you. I was just thinking more along the lines of us facilitating the movements of the candidates.

Lindsey

On Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 2:00 PM Max McComb <maxmccomb@champaign-homes.com> wrote:

Makes sense. We don't take minutes at those sessions, correct?

MAX McCOMB

REALTOR® GRI, CDPE

217.493.5450

maxmccomb.com

<https://maxmccomb.remax.com/mobile-apps>

RE/MAX Realty Associates

2009 Fox Dr., Champaign IL 61820

217.373.4878



On Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 8:39 AM Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

Good morning Max,

If the board is not going to use interview teams, and candidates are only going to interview with the board, then I don't see a need for Dawn to be there for interviews on Feb 26, Feb 28 and March 5.

Both of us would be needed if we need to "shuttle" candidates around from group to group.

Sound OK or do you feel differently?

Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3

Office: 217-586-2161

Cell: 309-613-3142

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Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Fwd: Senator Chapin Rose - SOEI Information/Changes

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 7:56 AM

To: Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>, Administrators <ms-admin@ms.k12.il.us>

More information if you are someone who must fill out a Statement of Economic Interest (only if you hold and are using a type 75/principal license if you're an employee..)

Lindsey

----- Forwarded message -----

From: **Landon Stenger** <ls@chapinrose.net>

Date: Thu, Feb 3, 2022 at 4:04 PM

Subject: Senator Chapin Rose - SOEI Information/Changes

To: Landon Stenger <ls@chapinrose.net>

Good afternoon Superintendents and Board Members,

I'm contacting you today at Senator Rose's request to address an issue that has been raised by several elected officeholders from around our district with questions and concerns related to changes in the Statement of Economic Interest (SOEI) that elected officials are required to complete in Illinois. In some cases, the new SOEI forms have been distributed without a complete listing of the exclusions, which has caused some confusion around the district.

From Senator Rose:

"While, we cannot provide legal advice, the attached memo has a nice summary of what is statutorily excluded (and I think will relieve a lot of the stress). Also, the excel chart attached – shows how the previous SOEI statutory questions were consolidated to make them easier to understand (assuming, of course, that someone had also sent the context of the "exclusions" up front and you didn't get one without the other)! Importantly, it also raised many of the limits and we got rid of many of the reporting requirements like retirement accounts, for example (these were previously required to be reported, and are now, under the new law, no longer reportable).

What is new is (i) the "debt" question (but again, looking at the exclusions to determine what is not reportable is very important) ... the inclusion of this question was to make sure that people weren't getting off-market "loans" from people seeking business with the unit of government they are elected to, and (ii) the question of utility companies, which I will admit has really very little applicability to local governments – but could.

Again, we can't give legal advice, but I'd suggest you reach out to your school attorney, or local State's Attorney, if you have questions of interpretations on what is/isn't reportable."

This email message and the attached documents are intended for informational purposes only and should not be interpreted as legal advice, but I hope you find this helpful nonetheless. If you have any questions please feel free to reach out to us at your convenience.

Best regards,

Landon

Landon Stenger

Chief of Staff

St. Senator Chapin Rose - 51st District

LS@chapinrose.net

510 S. Staley Rd., Ste. D, Champaign, IL 61822

217-607-1853

5130 Hickory Point Frontage Rd., Ste. 103, Decatur, IL 62526

217-330-9356

309 J Capitol Building, Springfield, IL 62706

217-558-1006

Internet Service Provider not paid for at Taxpayer expense.

2 attachments



Memorandum new SOEI form 1.25.2022.pdf
195K



Comparison Chart New v Old.xlsx
11K



Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Re: decision in Austin case...just the beginning

1 message

Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us>

Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 1:40 PM

To: Board <board@ms.k12.il.us>

Further clarification--from IASA attorney:

That will ultimately depend on what we see in the TRO decision. It's **possible** that her decision on those will impact the Gov's authority statewide and thus impact everyone.

The class certification denials mean that Devore is not authorized to take on representation of all the students or all the staff of the districts named in the respective suits even if they were not plaintiffs in the case.

On Fri, Feb 4, 2022 at 1:13 PM Lindsey Hall <lhall@ms.k12.il.us> wrote:

Good afternoon

The judge in Sangamon County has issued two orders today and has denied class certification in both the student (the case in which we are defendants) and staff COVID 19 cases.

This would be considered a blow to the plaintiffs' case as it won't be considered "class action" and apply to the entire state.

Maybe more to come today...

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Dr. Lindsey A. Hall

Superintendent of Schools

Mahomet-Seymour CUSD #3

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