



MONROE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
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August 4, 2025

VIA EMAIL: opra+request-78736-d6d67530@requests.opramachine.com

Anonymous

RE: OPRA Request dated July 23, 2025

Dear Sir/Madam:

On behalf of the Monroe Township Board of Education ("Board" and/or "District"), I am writing this letter in response to your request for records pursuant to the Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") submitted via email at 6:04 pm on Wednesday, July 23, 2025 and received on Thursday, July 24, 2025. As such, the seven (7) business day deadline within which the Board is to respond to your request is Monday, August 4, 2025.

More specifically, the Board responds to your requests as set forth below:

Any emails between Donna Marter and Chari Chanley sent during the period March 17, 2025-April 5, 2025 that include the following keywords in the subject headings or body of emails: 'Eagles Landing', 'Applegarth School', or 'Nelvi'".

Please note that your request for copies of emails with keywords "Eagles Landing", "Applegarth School", or "Nelvi" is overly broad in that the requests fail to include a narrowly construed subject or content and thus do not identify specific requested records. See Elcavage v. West Milford Twp. (Passaic), GRC Complaint No. 2009-07 (April 2010); Doss v. Borough of Paramus (Bergen), GRC Complaint No. 2014-149 (Interim Order dated January 30, 2015); Gannett New Jersey Partners L.P. v. County of Middlesex, 379 N.J. Super. 205, 211-12, 877 A.2d 330 (App. Div. 2005); New Jersey Builders Association v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J. Super. 166, 178 (App. Div.), certify. Denied, 190 N.J. 394 (2007); Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 40 (App. Div. 2005); NJ Builders Assoc. v. NJ Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J. Super. 166, 180 (App. Div. 2007);

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Burke v. Brandes, 429 N.J. Super. 169, 172, 176 (App. Div. 2012). Under OPRA, one cannot submit “wholesale requests for general information to be analyzed, collated and compiled by the responding government entity.” MAG Entertainment, LLC v. Division of Alcoholic Beverage Control, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 868 A.2d 1067 (App. Div. 2005). (The Court found a request for “all books, records, [and] documents” related to a specific project to be improper.)

Your request contains generic keywords that can easily appear in a vast quantity of records without any specific meaning. There is no requirement pursuant to OPRA which requires the Board to attempt to locate responsive correspondence containing a single word of generic meaning without any context. See Elcavage v. West Milford Twp. (Passaic), GRC Complaint No. 2009-07 (April 2010); Burke v. Brandes, 429 N.J. Super. 169, 172, 176 (App. Div. 2012). Further, requiring a custodian to locate responsive correspondence based on a single generic keyword is clearly not consistent with the establishment of “subject or content” as one of the criteria for a valid correspondence search. See Sandoval v. NJ State Parole Board, GRC Complaint No. 2006-167 (October 2008), and Schuler v. Borough of Bloomsbury, GRC Complaint No. 2007-151 (February 2009). Most importantly, using generic keywords is analogous to the type of overly broad request that the MAG and NJ Builder Association Courts determined to be invalid.

Further, pursuant to N.J.S.A. 47:1A-5, a custodian is not required to fulfill a request for correspondence “if the request does not identify a specific job title or accounts to be searched, a specific subject matter, and is not confined to a reasonable time period”. As submitted, your request does not include a specific subject matter.

Thus, as composed, the request contains generic terms which do not constitute a specific subject matter. As such, your request requires the Board to perform research and use judgement as to whether each correspondence is actually responsive to your request in order to respond properly. The OPRA does not require such actions.

However, in lieu of denying your request, the Board conducted a search of its records to identify any responsive documents related to the Nelvi bus from Applegarth to Eagles Landing as the subject/content. There are no records responsive to this request.

This correspondence and the foregoing information constitute the Board’s full and complete response to your OPRA request and therefore, your OPRA request is closed.

Sincerely,



Lisa Goldstein
OPRA & Central Registration Secretary