

WALL TOWNSHIP PUBLIC SCHOOLS
OFFICE OF THE BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR/BOARD SECRETARY
PO Box 1199
Wall, New Jersey 07719-1199

Brian J. Smyth
Custodian of Records

Phone: 732-556-2016
FAX: 732-556-2102

January 8, 2024

Betsy Cross

Re: OPRA 24-054

opra+request-56911-feb82c7b@requests.opramachine.com

Good afternoon,

The Wall Township Board of Education is in receipt of your emailed request for records dated January 8, 2024, wherein you requested records as follows:

“Records requested 1/8/2024, under IMMEDIATE ACCESS:
November 2023 attorney bills for Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne.”

In response to your request, please find November 2023 attorney bills for Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne consisting of 15 pages.

If your request for access to a government record has been denied or unfilled within the seven (7) business days required by law, you have a right to challenge the decision by the Wall Township Board of Education to deny access. At your option, you may either institute a proceeding in the Superior Court of New Jersey or file a complaint with the Government Records Council (GRC) by completing the Denial of Access Complaint Form. You may contact the GRC by toll-free telephone at 866-850-0511, by mail at P.O. Box 819, Trenton, NJ 08625, be-mail at grc@dca.state.nj.us, or at their web site at www.state.nj.us/grc. The GRC can also answer other questions about the law. All questions regarding complaints filed in Superior Court should be directed to the Court Clerk in your County.

Sincerely,



Brian J. Smyth
Custodian of Records

BJS/dc

Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

238 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Phone: 908-481-5000
Fax: 908-264-2045
Email: edlawgroup@cmmolaw.com

Invoice # 19948
Date: 11/30/2023

BUSINESS OFFICE

DEC 24 2023

RECEIVED

Wall Township Board of Education
1620 18th Avenue
Wall, New Jersey 07719

Statement of Account

Outstanding Balance	New Charges	Payments Received	Total Amount Outstanding
(\$3,308.25	+ \$7,070.25	) - (\$0.00	) = \$10,378.50

00992-Wall Township Board of Education

General

Date	Description	Hours	Amount
11/01/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from T. Steiner; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to T. Steiner In Re: HIB Inquiry	0.70	\$115.50
11/01/2023	Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth In Re: TVI Shared Services Agreement	0.65	\$107.25
11/01/2023	Receipt and review of emails and attachments from Business Office In Re: Legal Matters	0.85	\$140.25
11/02/2023	Receipt and review of email from E. Harrison, Esq. In Re: Legal Matter	0.20	\$33.00
11/02/2023	Telephone conference with B. Smyth; Receipt and review of email and attachment from B. Smyth; Telephone conference with D. Bender, Esq. In Re: Data Request	0.70	\$115.50
11/02/2023	Telephone conference with M. Scarano In Re: Student Matter	0.30	\$49.50
11/03/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to E. Harrison, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to E. Harrison, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of correspondence to J. Solinski; Receipt and review of email and attachment from Dr. Handerman In Re: Legal Matter	1.20	\$198.00
11/03/2023	Telephone conference with K. Scott In Re: Student Matter	1.00	\$165.00
11/03/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Data Request	3.50	\$577.50
11/06/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from Office of the Superintendent; Receipt and	0.45	\$74.25

	review of email and attachment from N. Benis, Esq. In Re: Student Matter		
11/06/2023	Review and revise correspondence to J. Solinski In Re: Legal Matter	0.20	\$33.00
11/06/2023	Telephone conference with C. Steitz; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Board Matter	1.20	\$198.00
11/07/2023	Receipt and review of email from N. Benis, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to N. Benis, Esq.; Receipt and review of email and attachments from Office of the Superintendent; Telephone conference with Office of the Superintendent In Re: Student Matter	1.20	\$198.00
11/08/2023	Telephone conference with Dr. Handerhan In Re: Student Matter	0.20	\$33.00
11/09/2023	Telephone conference with N. Benis, Esq.; Receipt and review of email and attachments from N. Benis, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Dr. Handerhan In Re: Student Matter	0.55	\$90.75
11/13/2023	Receipt and review of email from Office of the Superintendent; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Office of the Superintendent; Telephone conference with Office of the Superintendent; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to N. Benis, Esq.; Receipt and review of email from N. Benis, Esq. In Re: Student Matter	1.00	\$165.00
11/13/2023	Receipt and review of email from E. Scanlon, Esq.; Receipt and review of email and attachment from B. Smyth In Re: Pending Legal Matter	0.40	\$66.00
11/13/2023	Telephone conference with B. Smyth; Telephone conference with Dr. Handerhan In Re: Pending Matters	0.60	\$99.00
11/13/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Data Request	1.20	\$198.00
11/14/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to C. Siciliano In Re: Board Matter	0.30	\$49.50
11/14/2023	Receipt and review of email from E. Scanlon, Esq.; Receipt and review of email from B. Smyth In Re: Pending Legal Matter	0.25	\$41.25
11/14/2023	Receipt and review of email from Office of the Superintendent; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Office of the Superintendent In Re: Student Matter	0.20	\$33.00
11/14/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from T. Steiner; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: 504 Compliance	0.40	\$66.00
11/14/2023	Telephone conference with M. Scarano In Re: Student Matter; Personnel Matter	0.30	\$49.50
11/14/2023	Research, preparation and attendance at Board Meeting	3.80	\$627.00
11/14/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to J. Solinski; Telephone conference with C. Melcher, Esq. In Re: Legal Matter	0.45	\$74.25

11/15/2023	Receipt and review of email from C. Siciliano; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to C. Siciliano In Re: Board Matter	0.35	\$57.75
11/15/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from Board Office In Re: Data Request	0.45	\$74.25
11/16/2023	Review proposed brochure; Review regulations and draft revisions In Re: 504 Compliance	1.45	\$239.25
11/16/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Data Request	2.70	\$445.50
11/17/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Data Request	3.50	\$577.50
11/17/2023	Review proposed brochure; Review regulations and draft revisions In Re: 504 Compliance	1.75	\$288.75
11/20/2023	Receipt and review of email from N. Benis, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to N. Benis, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Board Office; Receipt and review of email from Board Office; Receipt and review of email and attachment from Office of the Superintendent In Re: Student Matter	0.55	\$90.75
11/20/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from Dr. Handerhan; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to Dr. Handerhan In Re: HIB Inquiry	0.90	\$148.50
11/21/2023	Receipt and review of email from E. Scanlon, Esq.; Receipt and review of email from Board Office In Re: Pending Legal Matter	0.20	\$33.00
11/21/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from T. Steiner; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: 504 Compliance	0.40	\$66.00
11/21/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from M. Scarano; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to M. Scarano In Re: Legal Matter	0.35	\$57.75
11/21/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from Office of the Superintendent; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: HIB Inquiry	0.20	\$33.00
11/22/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to T. Steiner; Receipt and review of email from T. Steiner; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: 504 Compliance	0.45	\$74.25
11/22/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: Data Request	1.20	\$198.00
11/22/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to B. Smyth; Receipt and review of email from Board Office In Re: Board Meeting	0.20	\$33.00
11/22/2023	Telephone conference with M. Scarano; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Data Request	0.40	\$66.00
11/27/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Board Office; Receipt and review of email from Board Office	0.20	\$33.00

In Re: Board Meeting				
11/27/2023	Receipt and review of email from Office of the Superintendent In Re: HIB	0.20	\$33.00	
11/28/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of Tuition Agreement; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to Dr. Handerhan In Re: Student Matter	1.40	\$231.00	
11/28/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence In Re: Data Request	2.00	\$330.00	
11/29/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence In Re: Data Request	1.50	\$247.50	
11/30/2023	Telephone conference with B. Smyth; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to Dr. Handerhan and B. Smyth In Re: Data Request	0.60	\$99.00	
11/30/2023	Telephone conference with Office of the Superintendent In Re: Student Matter	0.10	\$16.50	
			Quantity Subtotal	42.85
			Quantity Total	42.85
			Subtotal	\$7,070.25
			Amount	\$7,070.25

Detailed Statement of Account

Other Invoices

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19818	11/30/2023	\$3,308.25	\$0.00	\$3,308.25

Current Invoice

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19948	12/30/2023	\$7,070.25	\$0.00	\$7,070.25
			Outstanding Balance	\$10,378.50
			Total Amount Outstanding	\$10,378.50

Tax ID: 47-2275513

Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

238 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Phone: 908-481-5000
Fax: 908-264-2045
Email: edlawgroup@cmmolaw.com

Invoice # 19949
Date: 11/30/2023

BUSINESS OFFICE

DEC 24 2023

RECEIVED

Wall Township Board of Education
1620 18th Avenue
Wall, New Jersey 07719

Statement of Account

Outstanding Balance	New Charges	Payments Received	Total Amount Outstanding
(\$4,397.25	+ \$1,922.25	) - (\$0.00	) = \$6,319.50

01004-Wall Township Board of Education

OPRA

Date	Description	Hours	Amount
11/01/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence In Re: OPRA Request (24-11)	4.70	\$775.50
11/02/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: OPRA Request (24-11)	1.70	\$280.50
11/03/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth In Re: OPRA Request (24-11)	1.50	\$247.50
11/06/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: OPRA Request	0.30	\$49.50
11/08/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: OPRA Inquiry	0.80	\$132.00
11/09/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: OPRA	0.60	\$99.00
11/15/2023	Receipt and review of email from Business Office In Re: OPRA Requests	0.20	\$33.00
11/20/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: OPRA Inquiry (24-038)	1.20	\$198.00
11/21/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review and follow up of file In Re: OPRA Inquiry (24-038)	0.40	\$66.00
11/22/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from C. Klein In Re: OPRA Request	0.25	\$41.25

Quantity Subtotal	11.65
Quantity Total	11.65
Subtotal	\$1,922.25
Amount	\$1,922.25

Detailed Statement of Account

Other Invoices

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19819	11/30/2023	\$4,397.25	\$0.00	\$4,397.25

Current Invoice

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19949	12/30/2023	\$1,922.25	\$0.00	\$1,922.25

Outstanding Balance	\$6,319.50
Total Amount Outstanding	\$6,319.50

Tax ID: 47-2275513

Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

238 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Phone: 908-481-5000
Fax: 908-264-2045
Email: edlawgroup@cmmolaw.com

Invoice # 19950
Date: 11/30/2023

BUSINESS OFFICE

DEC 24 2023

RECEIVED

Wall Township Board of Education
1620 18th Avenue
Wall, New Jersey 07719

Statement of Account

Outstanding Balance	New Charges	Payments Received	Total Amount Outstanding
(\$10,956.00	+ \$4,224.00	) - (\$0.00	) = \$15,180.00

01005-Wall Township Board of Education

Personnel/Labor

Date	Description	Hours	Amount
11/01/2023	Receipt and review of email from R. Schwartz, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to R. Schwartz, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to M. Scarano In Re: Personnel	0.40	\$66.00
11/01/2023	Office research; preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to J. Licata, Arbitrator; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to N. Johnson-Lafleur, NJEA In Re: Personnel Arbitration	1.20	\$198.00
11/02/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of Protection Order In Re: Personnel Arbitration	1.50	\$247.50
11/02/2023	Receipt and review of email from M. Jacobs, Esq. In Re: Legal Matters	0.25	\$41.25
11/02/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from Dr. Handerhan; Telephone conference with K. Bond; Telephone conference with B. Smyth In Re: Personnel Matter	0.55	\$90.75
11/03/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from the Office of the Superintendent In Re: Personnel	0.25	\$41.25
11/03/2023	Telephone conference with Dr. Handerhan In Re: Personnel Matters	1.50	\$247.50
11/03/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Receipt and review of email from the Office of the Superintendent; Review of documents In Re: Personnel Arbitration	1.30	\$214.50
11/06/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth In Re: Personnel	0.25	\$41.25

11/07/2023	Research, preparation and drafting of correspondences to R. Friedman, Esq.; Receipt and review of correspondences from R. Friedman, Esq.; Receipt and review of correspondences from S. Murugan, Esq.; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondences to S. Murugan, Esq. and R. Friedman, Esq. In Re: Personnel	1.85	\$305.25
11/07/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel Arbitration	0.40	\$66.00
11/08/2023	Receipt and review of email from R. Schwartz, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to M. Scarano In Re: Personnel	0.35	\$57.75
11/08/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from R. Friedman, Esq.; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to Dr. Handerhan and B. Smyth In Re: Personnel	0.80	\$132.00
11/09/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth; Receipt and review of correspondence from the Office of the Superintendent; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to Office of the Superintendent In Re: Personnel	1.25	\$206.25
11/10/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from the Office of the Superintendent In Re: Personnel	0.25	\$41.25
11/13/2023	Receipt and review of email from M. Scarano; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to M. Scarano; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to R. Schwartz, Esq.; Receipt and review of email from R. Schwartz, Esq.; Receipt and review of email from personnel In Re: Personnel	0.55	\$90.75
11/14/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth In Re: Personnel	0.70	\$115.50
11/14/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel Matter	1.50	\$247.50
11/15/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondences to M. Scarano; Receipt and review of correspondences from M. Scarano In Re: Personnel	0.75	\$123.75
11/15/2023	Research, preparation and attendance at meeting with Dr. Handerhan, M. Scarano and J. Higham; Receipt and review of email and attachments from M. Scarano; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel Matters	1.70	\$280.50
11/20/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel	0.25	\$41.25
11/20/2023	Receipt and review of email from R. Schwartz, Esq. In Re: Personnel	0.25	\$41.25
11/21/2023	Telephone conference with Dr. Handerhan; Receipt and review of correspondence from Office of the Superintendent In Re: Personnel Grievance	0.70	\$115.50
11/22/2023	Research, preparation, and drafting of correspondence to R. Schwartz, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to R. Schwartz, Esq.; Review documents In Re: Personnel	1.00	\$165.00

11/22/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Review of grievance documents In Re: Personnel Grievance	0.30	\$49.50
11/25/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from N. Johnson-Lafleur, NJEA; Office research; preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel Arbitration	0.65	\$107.25
11/27/2023	Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to M. Scarano In Re: Personnel Arbitration	0.70	\$115.50
11/27/2023	Office research, preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of memorandum; Research, preparation and drafting of response; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to M. Scarano In Re: Personnel Grievance	1.55	\$255.75
11/28/2023	Receipt and review of email from M. Scarano; Receipt and review of email from J. Licata, Arbitrator; Office research; preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to M. Scarano In Re: Personnel Arbitration	0.50	\$82.50
11/28/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from S. Murugan, Esq.; Office research, preparation and review of file In Re: Personnel	0.90	\$148.50
11/29/2023	Telephone conference with M. Scarano In Re: Personnel	0.20	\$33.00
11/30/2023	Receipt and review of correspondences from C. Berdecia, OAL; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth; Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to R. Friedman, Esq. In Re: Personnel	1.30	\$214.50

Quantity Subtotal 25.6

Quantity Total 25.6

Subtotal \$4,224.00

Amount \$4,224.00

Detailed Statement of Account

Other Invoices

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19820	11/30/2023	\$10,956.00	\$0.00	\$10,956.00

Current Invoice

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19950	12/30/2023	\$4,224.00	\$0.00	\$4,224.00

Outstanding Balance	\$15,180.00
Total Amount Outstanding	\$15,180.00

Tax ID: 47-2275513

Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

238 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Phone: 908-481-5000
Fax: 908-264-2045
Email: edlawgroup@cmmolaw.com

Invoice # 19951
Date: 11/30/2023

BUSINESS OFFICE

DEC 24 2023

RECEIVED

Wall Township Board of Education
1620 18th Avenue
Wall, New Jersey 07719

Statement of Account

Outstanding Balance	New Charges	Payments Received	Total Amount Outstanding
(\$660.00	+ \$173.25	) - (\$0.00	) = \$833.25

01007-Wall Township Board of Education

Special Education

Date	Description	Hours	Amount
11/03/2023	Telephone conference with K. Bond In Re: Pending Matters	0.30	\$49.50
11/13/2023	Telephone conference with K. Bond In Re: Student Matter/Record Request	0.40	\$66.00
11/27/2023	Receipt and review of email and attachment from G. Pettineo, Esq.; Research, preparation, and drafting of email to G. Pettineo, Esq. In Re: Student Matter	0.35	\$57.75
Quantity Subtotal			1.05
Quantity Total			1.05
Subtotal			\$173.25
Amount			\$173.25

Detailed Statement of Account

Other Invoices

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19821	11/30/2023	\$660.00	\$0.00	\$660.00

Current Invoice

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19951	12/30/2023	\$173.25	\$0.00	\$173.25
Outstanding Balance				\$833.25
Total Amount Outstanding				\$833.25

Tax ID: 47-2275513

Cornell, Merlino, McKeever & Osborne, LLC

238 St. Paul Street
Westfield, NJ 07090
Phone: 908-481-5000
Fax: 908-264-2045
Email: edlawgroup@cmmolaw.com

Invoice # 19952
Date: 11/30/2023

BUSINESS OFFICE

DEC 24 2023

RECEIVED

Wall Township Board of Education
1620 18th Avenue
Wall, New Jersey 07719

Statement of Account

Outstanding Balance	New Charges	Payments Received	Total Amount Outstanding
(\$57.75	+ \$486.75	) - (\$0.00	) = \$544.50

01024-Wall Township Board of Education

Negotiations

Date	Description	Hours	Amount
11/07/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth In Re: WTASC Collective Bargaining Agreement	0.25	\$41.25
11/08/2023	Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth; Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth In Re: WTASC Collective Bargaining Agreement	0.90	\$148.50
11/09/2023	Receipt and review of correspondence from B. Smyth; Office research, preparation and review of file; Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to E. Laughlin In Re: WTASC Collective Bargaining Agreement	1.15	\$189.75
11/22/2023	Research, preparation and drafting of correspondence to B. Smyth In Re: WTASC Collective Bargaining Agreement	0.65	\$107.25
Quantity Subtotal			2.95
Quantity Total			2.95
Subtotal			\$486.75
Amount			\$486.75

Detailed Statement of Account

Other Invoices

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19822	11/30/2023	\$57.75	\$0.00	\$57.75

Current Invoice

Invoice Number	Due On	Amount Due	Payments Received	Balance Due
19952	12/30/2023	\$486.75	\$0.00	\$486.75

Outstanding Balance **\$544.50**

Total Amount Outstanding **\$544.50**

Tax ID: 47-2275513