



**HIGHLAND PARK
PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

www.hpschools.net
435 Mansfield St, Highland Park
NJ, 08904

OFFICE OF THE SCHOOL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATOR

DENISE M. DEROSA

(732) 572-2400

December 19, 2023

VIA EMAIL: opra+request-55958-11d220e2@requests.opramachine.com
Anonymous

Re: OPRA Request dated December 9, 2023

Dear Sir/Madam:

As custodian of records for the Highland Park Board of Education ("Board" and/or "District"), I am writing this letter in response for your request for records pursuant to the Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") submitted via email at 11:03 pm on Saturday, December 9, 2023 and received on Monday, December 11, 2023.

The Board's response to your request is set forth below:

"Marilyn Pruce's texts to and from other members of the Board of Education on December 6 and 7th."

Your request is overly broad in that the request does not identify specific requested records. A proper OPRA request must identify with reasonable clarity by specifically describing those documents that are being sought. See *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.), cert. denied, 190 N.J. 394 (2007); *Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't*, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 40 (App. Div. 2005). 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.) Additionally, in accord with *MAG*, supra, and its progeny, in order to specifically identify an email, OPRA requests must contain four (4) characteristics: content and/or subject, specific date or range of dates, sender, and recipient. See *Armenti v. Robbinsville Bd. of Educ. (Mercer)*, GRC Complaint No. 2009-154 (Interim Order dated May 24, 2011); *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). As submitted, your request does not include all of the required criteria, specifically subject/content, is thus invalid pursuant to the OPRA, and is hereby denied as overbroad.

Notwithstanding the above, please advise in writing if you wish to provide clarification of your OPRA request in accordance with the aforementioned parameters. In the event that we do not receive a written response from you within seven (7) days from the date of this letter, we shall assume that you do not wish to clarify the scope of your request and this

correspondence and foregoing information shall constitute the District's full and complete response to your OPRA request and therefore, your OPRA request will be deemed closed.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Denise DeRosa". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Denise" and last name "DeRosa" clearly distinguishable.

Denise DeRosa
Business Administrator/Board Secretary