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North Hunterdon-Voorhees
REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL DISTRICT
Providing success for all students

RICHARD A. BERGACS, Ed.D.
Superintendent of Schools

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School Business Administrator
Board Secretary

July 2, 2026

VIA EMAIL [opra+request-92628-7621ae40@requests.opramachine.com]

Tony Michael
opra+request-92628-7621ae40@requests.opramachine.com

Tony Michael,

The North Hunterdon-Voorhees Regional High School District ("District") records custodian received your Open Public Records Act ("OPRA") and common law request ("Request") on June 23, 2026. The seven business day deadline to respond to your Request is July 2, 2026. As such, the District is timely responding to your Request in accordance with New Jersey law.

Your Request seeks the following:

Copies of ALL invoices for all fire extinguisher, kitchen fire suppression and fire alarm services from 2020 to present.

Please be advised that your Request is overly broad, as it fails to identify with reasonable clarity any particular records sought. OPRA operates to make identifiable government records "readily accessible for inspection, copying, or examination." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1. New Jersey courts have consistently held that OPRA does not countenance open-ended searches of an agency's files. MAG Entm't, LLC v. Div. of ABC, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 549 (App. Div. 2005); New Jersey Builders Ass'n v. New Jersey Council on Affordable Housing, 390 N.J. Super. 166 (App. Div.), cert. denied, 190 N.J. 394 (2007). Consequently, a proper request under OPRA "must identify with reasonable clarity those documents that are desired, and a party cannot satisfy this requirement by simply requesting all of an agency's documents." See e.g., Spectraserv, Inc. v. Middlesex Cty. Utilities Auth., 416 N.J. Super. 565, 576 (App. Div. 2010); Bent v. Twp. of Stafford Police Dep't, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005). OPRA requests may not be a broad generic description of documents that require the custodian to search the agency's files and "analyze, compile, and collate" the requested information. Id.; see also Lagerkvist v. Office of Governor of State, 443 N.J. Super. 230, 237 (App. Div. 2015) (holding that OPRA does not convert a custodian into a researcher, which would have been the effect of the request). Here, your Request is clearly deficient as it constitutes a blanket request for "ALL invoices for all fire extinguisher, kitchen fire suppression and fire alarm services" over a 6 ½ year time period, and your Request purports to require the District's records custodian to review all District invoices over this span in order to determine which pertain to same, which is beyond the legal obligations of a records custodian under OPRA. See Parreott v. Asbury Park School District, GRC Complaint Nos. 2016-20 & 2016-39 (Sept. 2017) (holding that the portion of the request seeking "all relevant documents" was invalid because it sought a class of various records and would

have required the records custodian to conduct research in order to locate responsive records); see also Burke v. Ocean Cty., 2013 WL 6169154 (App. Div. 2013) (holding that an OPRA request is not the equivalent of lawsuit discovery). Accordingly, your Request is invalid as it fails to comport with OPRA's specificity requirements.

To the extent that you are purportedly seeking access to these invoices pursuant to the common law right of access, your Request is also denied. In O'Boyle v. Borough of Longport, 218 N.J. 168, 196 (2014), the Supreme Court of New Jersey held that the party requesting documents under the common law right of access must explain why he seeks access to the requested documents. See also Gannett Satellite Information Network, LLC v. Twp. of Neptune, 254 N.J. 242 (2023) (holding that the person seeking access must establish an interest in the subject matter of the material). Here, your Request lacks any explanation with respect to your purported interest in accessing the invoices at issue.

Your Request is now deemed answered and closed

Sincerely,

Kathryn Blew
Business Administrator/Custodian of Records