



MONROE TOWNSHIP SCHOOLS
423 Buckelew Avenue
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DR. CHARI ROBYNNE CHANLEY

Superintendent of Schools

DR. ADAM M. LAYMAN

Assistant Superintendent of Schools

LAURA ALLEN, CPA

Business Administrator/Board Secretary

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August 15, 2024

VIA EMAIL ONLY: opra+request-64544-461342b1@requests.opramachine.com

Anonymous

RE: OPRA Request dated August 6, 2024

Dear Sir/Madam:

As custodian of records for the Monroe Township Board of Education ("Board" and/or "District"), I am writing this letter in response to your request pursuant to the Open Public Records Act (OPRA) submitted via email and received on August 6, 2024.

More specifically, the Board responds to your request below:

"Records requested:

Chari Chanley's attendance records, including any reason for absence, from September 2023-June 2024."

Enclosed please find a copy of the record which is responsive to your request.

In addition, to the extent that your request seeks information regarding "any reason for absence," please note that the aforementioned request is overly broad and seeks information, rather than identifiable records. OPRA operates to make identifiable government records "readily accessible for inspection, copying, or examination." N.J.S.A. 47:1A-1; MAG Entertainment, LLC v. Div. of ABC, 375 N.J. Super. 534, 546 (App. Div. 2005). MAG Entertainment, LLC held, "[w]hile OPRA provides an alternative means of access to government documents not otherwise exempted from its reach, it is not intended as a research tool litigants may use to force government officials to identify and siphon useful information." Id. at 547.

"Under OPRA, agencies are required to disclose only 'identifiable' government records not otherwise exempt." Id. at 549; *See also Bent v. Stafford Police Dep't*, 381 N.J. Super. 30, 37 (App. Div. 2005) (holding that OPRA only allows requests for records as contrasted from information, and to qualify under OPRA a request must reasonably identify a record and not generally data, information or statistics). The Board is not required to perform research on behalf of the requestor, only to produce specific records identified by the requestor. Likewise, the Board is not required to

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create new documents in order to respond to an OPRA request. *See* Sussex Commons Assocs., LLC v. Rutgers, 210 N.J. 531, 544 (2012).

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.), certif. 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). (Court found a request for "all books, records, [and] documents" related to a specific project to be improper.)

Notwithstanding the above, to the extent that your request seeks attendance records of Chari Chanley from September 2023-June 2024 which include "any reason for absence," please be advised that no responsive records exist.

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,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Lisa Goldstein". The script is cursive and fluid.

Lisa Goldstein
OPRA Secretary

My Absence Data**8/12/2024**

Employee Full Name	Date	Absence Type
CHANLEY, CHARI	10/23/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	10/24/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	10/25/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	10/26/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	11/22/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	12/8/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	12/14/2023	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	1/25/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	1/26/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	3/11/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	3/12/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	3/22/2024	Half Day PM
CHANLEY, CHARI	3/28/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	4/15/2024	Half Day AM
CHANLEY, CHARI	4/24/2024	Half Day AM
CHANLEY, CHARI	4/29/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	4/30/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/1/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/2/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/3/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/6/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/7/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/8/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/9/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/10/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	5/20/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/3/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/13/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/14/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/24/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/27/2024	Full Day
CHANLEY, CHARI	6/28/2024	Full Day