

To: Nathaniel Kuzma
From: Jim Heaney
Subject: FOI request
April 22, 2020

I am requesting, under the state FOI Law, data related to distance learning in Buffalo schools. I had hoped to discuss the type of data the district maintains so as to submit a precise request, but given your unwillingness to talk, I am making a more general request. Please feel free to contact me if you require further clarification.

I request, preferably in electronic format, records that document:

- attendance, or participation rates, of **students**, pre-k through grade 12. If possible, I'd like breakouts by days, starting with the date schools were closed because of the pandemic, by grade and by school. A further breakout by race and student type, special ed vs. regular ed, for example, is also requested if available.
- attendance, or participation rates, of **teachers**, pre-k through grade 12. If possible, I'd like breakouts by days, starting with the date schools were closed because of the pandemic, by grade and by school.
- the amount of time **students and teachers** are online in the course of participating in distance learning. I don't know how this information is tracked and would appreciate your guidance in fine-tuning this portion of my request. Put another way, what portion of students/teachers are online or otherwise engaged in school work under an hour a day, vs. 1-2 hours, 3-4, 5 or more per day? Breakouts by grade and school would be good, along with districtwide figures.
- how many students, prior to the closing of schools, already had a learning device, such as a laptop computer, and internet connection at home, vs. those who did not. Please provide a breakout by grade, school and zip code, if available.
- how many students received a learning device via the school district. Please provide a breakout by grade, school and zip code, if available. Please detail, for the district as a whole, how many of each type of devices were distributed and a weekly accounting of how many devices were distributed.
- efforts by the district to provide internet connection to students lacking it.
- how the district is tracking student performance. Is the traditional grading system still in place, or are alternatives being used? Data on assignments made vs. completed might be one way of getting at this.

I recognize that portions of my request may involve drawing from several platforms, including Schoology. I would like information shared as it becomes available, as opposed to waiting until everything is compiled. And again, I request the information in electronic format, including spreadsheets, when possible.

I ask that this request be handled in an expeditious manner, and that the district contact me with any questions you may have. I'm willing to modify this request to help speed the release of information. I can be reached by cell at 716-***-****.

Thanks for your anticipated cooperation.