



Eastern Greene Schools

1471 N. State Rd 43

Bloomfield, IN 47424

(812)825-5722

centraloffice@egreene.k12.in.us

August 11, 2025

VIA EMAIL ONLY (emma@isledata.io; emm.bernstein@gmail.com)

Isle Data

Attn: Emma Bernstein

3849 N. Ravenswood Ave

Chicago, IL. 60613

Re: August 4, 2025 Public Records Requests under the APRA

Dear Ms. Bernstein,

This correspondence serves as the written response of Eastern Greene Schools ("School") to your public records request made on August 4, 2025.

The School, as a "public agency" under the Indiana Access to Public Records Act ("APRA"), Ind. Code § 5-14-3, will construe your request as one made pursuant to the APRA. In fact, your request refers to and also provides citations to the APRA.

Specifically, your request seeks the following information:

“...access to records showing annual spending by [School District Name] [sic] with all vendors and service providers that received more than \$500 in total payments in any given fiscal year, for fiscal years 2019–20 through 2023–24.”

Under Indiana law, the School remains in the process of reviewing your request. Nevertheless, a preliminary review of your request has been conducted and the following issues and points are relevant to your request.

First, pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-3-3(a)(1), a request must identify with “reasonable particularity” the records being requested. Your request is not reasonably particular, and, as such, the School requests that you amend and narrow the request by specifying the records being requested so the School can search for, locate, and retrieve any particular records. In particular, your request is too overbroad and vague because your request seeks, among other things, “...annual spending... with all vendors and service providers that received more than \$500 in total payments in any given fiscal year, for fiscal years 2019-20 through 2023-24.” Such a request is too overbroad and vague. Moreover, the period of time for your request consists of five (5) fiscal years. As written, your request would require the School to review potentially thousands of pages of records to determine what information is responsive and exempt under the



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APRA. As such, it would take an inordinate amount of staff and/or attorney time to analyze, review, and redact all of the responsive materials to comply with your request. For these reasons, the School requests that you amend and narrow the time duration as well as the scope of the request by specifying the records being requested so that the School can search for, locate, and retrieve any particular records.

Second, please note that the APRA does not require a public agency to create any documents to satisfy a request for records. Ind. Code § 5-14-3-3(f). In addition, the APRA requires the School to separate and/or redact confidential information in records requested before making the disclosable information available for inspection and copying. *See* Ind. Code § 5-14-3-6(a). For these reasons, the School will neither be accessing nor preparing documents with the “structured Excel template” you provided in your request.

Third, as your request potentially involves records of a third party, if there are responsive documents, the School will have an obligation to review and assess disclosure of the responsive documents for potential non-disclosure and/or redaction. Indiana law recognizes the value of protecting proprietary information and trade secrets. As such, the APRA allows the redaction of trade secrets/proprietary information from disclosure. *See* Ind. Code § 5-14-3-4(a)(4). Since some of the information/documents you requested may contain such information for or from a third party, the School is obligated to redact such sensitive proprietary information.

In light of the above, it is the School’s position that your request for “...annual spending... with all vendors and service providers that received more than \$500 in total payments in any given fiscal year, for fiscal years 2019-20 through 2023-24” must be amended and re-submitted.

If your amended and re-submitted APRA request is approved, understand that it will take the School some time to search its records, compile the requested information, and review them for any privileged or non-disclosable information, and produce them in addition to the School performing its normal school duties. In addition, in light of the School’s obligations to separate and/or redact confidential information pursuant to Ind. Code § 5-14-3-6(a), please note that your request for records in a digital format cannot be honored.

Lastly, any denials, redactions, or other obligations of the School are hereby expressly reserved in this initial response.

Please contact me if you have any questions or wish to discuss further. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Doug Lewis

Superintendent, Eastern Greene Schools