



March 10, 2021

Jennifer Smith Richards  
Chicago Tribune

Jodi S. Cohen  
ProPublica

**VIA EMAIL – [Jrichards@chicagotribune.com](mailto:Jrichards@chicagotribune.com) and [Jodi.Cohen@propublica.org](mailto:Jodi.Cohen@propublica.org)**

Re: FOIA Request dated and received February 25, 2021

Subject: A copy of the following records:

- Records that show all incidents that included referral to law enforcement, including school-based resource officers, and the underlying offense during the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years that did not result in arrest.
- Records that show all arrests of students made inside the school district and the underlying offense during the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years.
- Records that show the gender and race of students referred to law enforcement, arrested and/or issued a citation or ticket in the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years.
- Records that show all incidents in which students were issued a citation or ticket for an ordinance violation during the 2018-2019, 2019-2020 and the 2020-2021 school years.

The records could include, but not be limited to, disciplinary logs or reports, incident logs or reports, behavior resolution reports, and data that reflects the referrals, arrests and citations during the above years.

Dear Ms. Smith Richards and Ms. Cohen:

This letter will serve as Oswego Community Unit School District 308's response to your February 25, 2021 request under the Freedom of Information Act (5 ILCS 140/1 et seq.), in which you asked for the above referenced information.

Pursuant to Section 7.5(r) of the Illinois Freedom of Information Act, 5 ILCS 140/7.5(r), the requested records are exempt from inspection and copying as they constitute records and information prohibited from disclosure under the Illinois School Student Records Act. Without waiving this exemption, the following information is provided in response to your request:

Oswego CUSD #308	Total students; Total students in Grades 6-12	Arrests 6-12 campus(es)	Gender	Race
<b>2018-2019- Totals</b>				
Oswego CUSD #308	<b>18,055; 9,528</b>	<b>22</b>	18= Male; 4=Female	7=White; 7=Hispanic; 5=Black/African American; 2=Multi-Racial; 1=Asian
<b>2019-2020- Totals</b>				
Oswego CUSD #308	<b>17,973; 8,920</b>	<b>2</b>	2=Male	1=White; 1=Hispanic
<b>2020-2021-Totals</b>				
Oswego CUSD #308	<b>17,115; 8,924</b>	<b>0</b>	N/A	N/A

The decision to withhold the exempt documents was made by consultation with our District legal counsel. You have a right to have the denial of your request reviewed by the Public Access Counselor (PAC) at the Office of the Illinois Attorney General. 5 ILCS 140/9.5(a). You can file your Request for Review with the PAC by writing to:

Public Access Counselor  
Office of the Attorney General  
500 South 2<sup>nd</sup> Street  
Springfield, IL 62706

If you choose to file a Request for Review with the PAC, you must do so within 60 calendar days of the date of this denial letter. Please note that you must include a copy of your original FOIA request and this denial letter when filing a Request for Review with the PAC. You also have the right to seek judicial review of your denial by filing a lawsuit in the State circuit court. 5 ILCS 140/11.

To promote district transparency and assist others who may have a similar question, this document will be posted online on the district's website. To access it, go to [www.sd308.org](http://www.sd308.org) and select *Our District >Freedom of Information Request >FOIA Requests Responses -2021>then select FOIA ID #21-08*.

Please let me know if you have additional questions. Thank you.

*Carrie Szambelan*

Carrie Szambelan  
Freedom of Information Officer