



J. Michael Clára
Salt Lake City School Board
District Two

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13 August 2014

DELIVERED VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Mr. McKell Withers
Salt Lake City School District
440 East 100 South
Salt Lake City, Utah 84111-1891

Re: GRAMA REQUEST: School Bus #199

Dear Mr. Withers,

Pursuant to **Government Records Access Management Act** (GRAMA), *Utah Code §63g-2-204*:

I am requesting a copy of all records (*a book, letter, document, paper, map, plan, photograph, film, card, tape, recording, electronic data including emails, or other documentary material regardless of physical form or characteristics*) pertaining to or associated with **School Bus #199** - Blue Bird Body –Year 2001.


As indicated in recent email exchanges, I am troubled by the fact that you and those overseeing the Salt Lake City School District, Transportation Department are of the opinion that hot coolant, burning students on June 2, 2014, is an “*isolated incident*”. My initial inquires as to what remedies were being deployed, were met with broad and vague responses. I am frustrated by the fact that school will begin soon while this bus sits with the manufacture who is too busy to even look at it. It also concerns me that because this particular model was not on the recall list styled **NHTSA Campaign Number: 14V-313**, nothing has been done to mitigate this problem with this bus or any others with the same layout.

I am seeking the requested information on this bus so that I might pursue other avenues of remediation with the appropriate state and federal regulators. I believe that your dissemination of these documents is in keeping with Utah’s Open and Public Meetings Act:

“In enacting this chapter, the Legislature finds and declares that the state, its agencies and political subdivisions, exist to aid in the conduct of the people’s business. It is the intent of the law that their actions be taken openly and that their deliberations be conducted openly” (see Utah code §52-4-101).

Utah Code §63g-2-203(4) encourages agencies to fulfill a records request without charge. Based on Utah Code §63g -2-203 (4a), I am requesting a waiver of copy costs because releasing the records primarily benefits the public rather than a person. Furthermore, based on Utah Code §63g -2-203 (4c) my “*legal rights are directly implicated by the information in the record*” as I am an elected member of the Board of Education (see Utah Code §53A-3-402). I am of the opinion that the public has a right to examine all the records pertaining to this particular school bus. Due to the fact that inaction on the district’s part will jeopardize the safety of students, I am requesting that you respond to my request within 5 business days, as permitted by Utah Code §63g -2-204 (3)(b).

Shalom,


J. Michael Clára
Board Member, District 2

“Local school boards are the bedrock of our society, yet they are invisible to the public”

Señor Florez –Deseret News