

King Laurence, Chief Administration Officer
klaurence@acpsd.net
Aiken County Public Schools
Administration
1000 Brookhaven Drive
Aiken, SC 29803

RE: Please route this request of public records to the authorized custodian of public records for the Aiken County Public Schools. After doing so, please alert me by Email as to who that party is and their contact information.

September 8, 2019

Dear Custodian of public records for Aiken County Public Schools,

As it appears local media are not reporting on this, this is a **request of public records (FOIA)** under the authority of South Carolina Code 30-4-30(a) and the South Carolina Attorney General's (AG) attached legal opinion dated November 7, 2007, of any **Settlement Agreement** entered into between the school board acting on behalf of the Aiken County Public School and former School Superintendent Dr Sean Alford, regarding his resignation from office of last week.

I do request the document in total but do recognize the AG's opinion allows for exceptions of information contained in the settlement agreement that "if disclosed would be an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy." (p 3) Yet, the AG adds, "the statutory exemptions should be narrowly construed in order to give full effect to the general remedial purpose of disclosure."

I encourage the narrow construing of any personal privacy exemptions and do not believe that any possible activities mentioned in the agreement regarding conduct which may involve improper spending of tax dollars or conduct which is normally defined as bullying should qualify as an unreasonable invasion of personal privacy. We would request that any such reasonable exemptions be redacted in the very document itself.

Lest the school board be seeking some court sealing of this agreement, I also draw your attention to the AG's legal opinion citing the South Carolina Supreme Court's Rules of Civil Procedures (p 3) stating, "under no circumstances shall a court approve sealing a settlement agreement which involves a public body or institution."

If there is any cost to Email me this agreement, please provide me a reasonable estimate of that cost in advance of incurring any liability to me. I will review it and then either authorize you to proceed ahead or else amend my request. If there is not cost, please Email it to me as promptly as possible.

Any questions or clarifications needed please contact me by phone or Email below.

Sincerely,



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We the People Aiken
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CC:
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