Submit a California Public Records Act Request to Carmel USD

The Carmel Unified School District (CUSD) is committed to transparency and providing easy access to public records pursuant to the California Public Records Act (CPRA). The California Public Records Act gives the public the right to access records created and maintained by public agencies in the course of their normal business.

Pursuant to Government Code Section 6252(e), a public record is defined as "any writing containing information relating to the conduct of the public's business prepared, owned, used, or retained by any state or local agency regardless of physical form or characteristics." Public records requests may be used to obtain "records," which include a wide variety of documents and other materials (including print, photographic, and electronic formats) that were created or obtained by the organization and are, at the time the request is filed, in the organization's possession and control.

Records subject to disclosure under the CPRA may include email or other communications from members of the public or which reference them. While the District reviews all responsive records to determine if this information should be disclosed, in many cases references to members of the public, or the content of their communications to the District are subject to disclosure. Permissible exemptions from disclosure include documents that invade an individual's right to privacy (e.g., privacy in certain personnel, medical, or student records) or hinder the government's need to perform its assigned functions in a reasonably efficient manner (e.g., maintaining confidentiality of investigative records, official information, records related to pending litigation, and preliminary notes or memoranda).

All requests will be posted to the District's CPRA webpage.

Name of requestor: *
First and last name
Gregory Rolen
Email of requestor: (Responses will be provided to this email address) *
grolen@hbblaw.com

Mailing address of requestor:
505 Sansome St., Suite 1701San Francisco, CA

Your request: (To enable staff to respond to your request as efficiently as possible, please include: The date range for the records requested; the department that holds the records (if known); and the types of records, including any important keywords. Please do not include any confidential information.)

please see attached documents

If you have attachments or images to add to the request, please do so here.

This form was created inside of Carmel Unified School District.

Google Forms
April 28, 2023

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Interim Superintendent Sharon Ofek
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93929
Email: sofek@carmelunified.org

William Tunick Esq.
Dannis Woliver & Kelly
200 California St., Suite 400
San Francisco, CA 94111
Email: wtunick@DWKesq.com

Dear Interim Superintendent Ms. Ofek and Mr. Tunick:

Pursuant to my rights under the California Public Records Act (Government Code §6250 et seq.), I request copies of the following writings defined by Government Code §6252(g), including, but not limited to, handwriting, typewriting, printing, photostating, photography and photocopying, email transmissions, text messages or facsimile which are maintained by your agency and/or the individuals identified in the following paragraphs:

1. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes, or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Sara Hinds (“Trustee Hinds”) and Superintendent Edward Knight (“Ted Knight”) during the following months: a) February 2022; b) November 2022; c) January 2023; and d) February 2023.

2. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Karl Pallastrini (“Trustee Pallastrini”) and Ted Knight during the following months: a) June-August 2022.

3. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Ted Knight and Carmel Unified School District (“District”) staff on or about February
6, 2023;

4. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Hinds and Trustee Pallastrini from January 1-2023 to the present;

5. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Hinds and Trustee Pallastrini which refer, relate or pertain to Tracy Henderson;

6. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Hinds and Ted Knight on or about March 16, 2023;

7. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Pallastrini and Ted Knight on or about March 16, 2023;

8. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Hinds and Ted Knight during March 2023 which refer, relate or pertain to the following a) sexual harassment; b) sexual assault; or c) Title IX;

9. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Pallastrini and Ted Knight during March 2023 which refer, relate or pertain to the following a) sexual harassment; b) sexual assault; or c) Title IX;

I ask for a determination within ten days of your receipt of this request and an even more prompt reply if you can make a determination without having to review the records in question. I am informed and believe that these records are readily accessible and susceptible to prompt production. Please forward these records to my email address set forth below. Also, if you wish to make these records available for inspection please do indicate by email. If you wish to provide hardcopy records please send them to the address provided below. If you determine that any or all of the information qualifies for exemption from disclosure, I ask you to note whether, as is normally the case under the Act, that the exemption is discretionary. Please indicate whether you intend to exercise that discretion and the member of your agency vested with that discretion. If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, we ask that you redact it for the time being and make the rest available as requested. Finally, please provide a signed notification citing legal authorities upon which you rely, if you determine that any or all of the information is exempt and will not be disclosed.
If I can provide any clarification that will help expedite your attention to my request please contact me at grolen@hbblaw.com or at 415-281-7654. Please forward hardcopy records to me at our address:

Gregory J. Rolen, Esq.
Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP
505 Sansome St., Suite 1701
San Francisco, CA 94111
Email: grolen@hbblaw.com
Telephone: 415-281-7654

Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Rolen
Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP

Cc: Gabriella D. Flowers
April 28, 2023

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Interim Superintendent Sharon Ofek  
Carmel Unified School District  
4380 Carmel Valley Road  
Carmel, CA 93929

Email: sofek@carmelunified.org

William Tunick Esq.  
Dannis Woliver & Kelly  
200 California St., Suite 400  
San Francisco, CA 94111

Email: wtunick@DWKesq.com

Re: Public Records Act Request

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1. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes, or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Sara Hinds (“Trustee Hinds”) and Superintendent Edward Knight (“Ted Knight”) from July 1, 2021-present which refer, relate or pertain to the following: a) “When students change gender identity,” b) Hanover Lake Start Gender Identity Survey; and c) “Far Left Superintendent’s Student Advisory Group.”

2. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Karl Pallastrini (“Trustee Pallastrini”) and Ted Knight from July 1, 2022, to the present which refer, relate or pertain to Trustee Pallastrini’s comments on high school girls in their prom dresses.
3. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Ted Knight and Carmel Unified School District (“District”) staff which refer, relate or pertain to pass complaints against Trustee Pallastrini;

4. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) on or about March 8, 2023, between Trustee Pallastrini and Ted Knight regarding student complaints of sexual assault;

5. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Trustee Pallastrini which refer, relate or pertain to Tracy Henderson;

6. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) during March 2023 between Trustee Pallastrini and Sharon Setliff (“Ms.Setliff”);

7. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Pallastrini Trustee Hinds and Ted Knight in or about March 2023, which refer, relate or pertain to Ms. Setliff;

I ask for a determination within ten days of your receipt of this request and an even more prompt reply if you can make a determination without having to review the records in question. I am informed and believe that these records are readily accessible and susceptible to prompt production. Please forward these records to my email address set forth below. Also, if you wish to make these records available for inspection please so indicate by email. If you wish to provide hardcopy records please send them to the address provided below. If you determine that any or all of the information qualifies for exemption from disclosure, I ask you to note whether, as is normally the case under the Act, that the exemption is discretionary. Please indicate whether you intend to exercise that discretion and the member of your agency vested with that discretion. If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, we ask that you redact it for the time being and make the rest available as requested. Finally, please provide a signed notification citing legal authorities upon which you rely, if you determine that any or all of the information is exempt and will not be disclosed.
If I can provide any clarification that will help expedite your attention to my request please contact me at grolen@hbblaw.com or at 415-281-7654. Please forward hardcopy records to me at our address:

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Sincerely,

Gregory J. Rolen
Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP

Cc: Gabriella D. Flowers
April 28, 2023

VIA EMAIL AND U.S. MAIL

Interim Superintendent Sharon Ofek
Carmel Unified School District
4380 Carmel Valley Road
Carmel, CA 93929

Email: sofek@carmelunified.org

William Tunick Esq.
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200 California St., Suite 400
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Email: wtunick@DWKesq.com

Re: Public Records Act Request

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1. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes, or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) which refer, relate or pertain to complaints of a sexual nature against Jay Marden (“Mr. Marden”);

2. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) which refer, relate or pertain to complaints of a sexual nature against between Trustee Karl Pallastrini (“Trustee Pallastrini”);

3. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) which refer, relate or pertain to substantive responses to the Carmel Unified School District (“District”) sexual harassment survey conducted by District Human
Sharon Ofek, Superintendent  
April 28, 2023  
Page 2

Resources and investigator Amy Oppenheimer.

4. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Sara Hinds (“Trustee Hinds”) and Trustee Pallastrini and John Lyons (“Mr. Lyons”) from December, 2022-present;

5. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Pallastrini which refer, relate or pertain to Tracy Henderson;

6. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) on or about February 10, 2023, between Trustee Hinds and Ted Knight which refer, relate or pertain to Ted Knight’s resignation;

7. Any and all email communications, text messages, meeting notes, calendar invitations or other writings as defined by Government Code §6252 (g) between Trustee Pallastrini Trustee Hinds and Ted Knight from January 2022-present which refer, relate or pertain to the Brown Act;

I ask for a determination within ten days of your receipt of this request and an even more prompt reply if you can make a determination without having to review the records in question. I am informed and believe that these records are readily accessible and susceptible to prompt production. Please forward these records to my email address set forth below. Also, if you wish to make these records available for inspection please so indicate by email. If you wish to provide hardcopy records please send them to the address provided below. If you determine that any or all of the information qualifies for exemption from disclosure, I ask you to note whether, as is normally the case under the Act, that the exemption is discretionary. Please indicate whether you intend to exercise that discretion and the member of your agency vested with that discretion. If you determine that some but not all of the information is exempt from disclosure and that you intend to withhold it, we ask that you redact it for the time being and make the rest available as requested. Finally, please provide a signed notification citing legal authorities upon which you rely, if you determine that any or all of the information is exempt and will not be disclosed.
If I can provide any clarification that will help expedite your attention to my request please contact me at grolen@hbblaw.com or at 415-281-7654. Please forward hardcopy records to me at our address:

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Thank you in advance for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Gregory J. Rolen
Haight Brown & Bonesteel LLP

Cc: Gabriella D. Flowers