

From: Holcombe, Rebecca [Rebecca.Holcombe@vermont.gov]
Sent: Friday, September 30, 2016 4:31 PM
To: Springer, Darren; Pepper, James
Subject: Exec privilege-- a heads up

Darren and James,

I want to give you a heads up on a little glitch at AOE. We are working to resolve it.

Rep. Oliver Olsen, who is a member of the Board of Directors of Burr and Burton Academy, requested information from the local school district as to how many students as Burr and Burton qualify for free and reduced lunch. The district properly declined to give him the information because Burr and Burton does not participate in the free and reduced lunch program and therefore, under federal law (the program is operated under the USDA), Burr and Burton is not entitle to this income-sensitive data..

Rep. Olsen has asked the AOE why he can get information from the Agency about the number of children that are directly certified by AHS as eligible because of their family income but cannot get eligibility information from the school district. He may be interested because the children who are directly certified does not represent the total population of students eligible for the free and reduced lunch program; there are others who are eligible.

While the district responded correctly to his request, it brought to our attention that AOE should not be releasing the direct certification information either. We are correcting the data system that released that information to Burr and Burton. AOE is responding to Burr and Burton that (1) the district was correct; (2) provision of the direct certification data by AOE was an error; and (3) the Agency is correcting the latter.

Have a good weekend.

Rebecca

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