

February 25, 2019

VIA E-MAIL

Superintendent Ayindé Ruldolph Mountain View Whisman School District 1400 Montecito Avenue Mountain View, CA 94043 supt@mvwsd.org

Re: Response to Public Records Act Request Dated February 15, 2019

Dear Superintendent Rudolph:

Bullis Charter School ("BCS") responds to your public records request dated February 15, 2019, made pursuant to the California Public Records Act (the "CPRA"). You incorrectly directed your request to "Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)". This response assumes you meant to direct your request to BCS. To be clear, BCS does not operate or hold itself out as "Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)".

<u>Request No. 1</u>: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, sent or received by Bullis Charter School (Los Altos), and any of its directors, employees, and agents, regarding Bullis Mountain View ("BMV").

Response: You directed your request to BCS, which you incorrectly describe as "Bullis Charter School (Los Altos)". It is important here to clarify what appears to be a central misunderstanding reflected in your request. BCS is a single public charter school authorized by the Santa Clara County Board of Education. BCS did not submit the Bullis Mountain View charter petition to the Mountain View Whisman School District ("MVWSD") that your request appears to center upon. A different entity called "Bullis Public Charter School II" submitted and is responsible for that petition.

In light of the foregoing, it is unclear what records you might be seeking other than records of communications between BCS and MVWSD regarding the Bullis Mountain View petition. To the extent BCS possesses responsive public records subject to that understanding, BCS will gather and produce any non-exempt records in its possession. If this is not what you are looking for, please clarify.

<u>Request No. 2</u>: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, with the Santa Clara County Office of Education, sent or received by Bullis Charter School (Los Altos), and any of its directors, employees, and agents, regarding BMV.

Response: Please see the Response to Request No. 1. Any records that may be responsive to this request would be subsumed under Request No. 1. Please provide the requested clarification, if any.

Request No. 3: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, with the Santa Clara County Board of Education, sent or received by Bullis Charter School (Los Altos), and any of its directors, employees, and agents, regarding BMV.

Response: Please see the Response to Request No. 1. Any records that may be responsive to this request would be subsumed under Request No. 1. Please provide the requested clarification, if any.

<u>Request No. 4</u>: Any and all documents relating to the Bullis Public Charter School II ("BPCS") Board of Directors.

Response: This request seeks records about Bullis Public Charter School II's Board of Directors. BCS and Bullis Public Charter School II are separate, independent entities. It appears unlikely that BCS would possess records pertaining to the other entity's board of directors. In any event, we made reasonable efforts to locate responsive records, and it does not appear that BCS possesses any responsive records.

<u>Request No. 5</u>: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, between Bullis Charter School (Los Altos), and any of its directors, employees, and agents, and BMV, and any of its directors, employees, and agents, including Jennifer Anderson-Rosse, regarding the BPCS Board of Directors.

Response: We interpret your reference to "BMV" to mean Bullis Public Charter School II, because Bullis Mountain View or "BMV" is more accurately described as an education program proposed in that entity's charter petition. Again, BCS and Bullis Public Charter School II are separate, independent entities. It appears unlikely that BCS would possess records pertaining to the other entity's board of directors. Assuming this request seeks communications between BCS and Bullis Public Charter School II regarding the latter's Board of Directors, we made reasonable efforts to locate responsive records, and it does not appear we possess any responsive records.

<u>Request No. 6</u>: Any and all documents relating to the location of the residence of BPCS board members.

Response: We made reasonable efforts to locate responsive records, and it does not appear we possess any responsive records. Even so, it would be inappropriate for us to share sensitive information like personal home addresses if that is what you are seeking.

<u>Request No. 7</u>: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, to date, between Bullis Charter School (Los Altos), and any of its directors, employees, and agents, and BMV, and any of its directors, employees, and agents, including Jennifer Anderson-Rosse, regarding the location of the residence of BPCS board members.

Response: We interpret your reference to "BMV" to mean Bullis Public Charter School II, because Bullis Mountain View or "BMV" is more accurately described as an education program proposed in that entity's charter petition. Again, BCS and Bullis Public Charter School II are separate, independent entities. It appears unlikely that BCS would possess records pertaining to another entity's board of directors. Assuming this request seeks communications between BCS and Bullis Public Charter School II regarding personal home addresses of the latter's Board of Directors, we made reasonable efforts to locate responsive records, and it does not appear we possess responsive records. Even so, it would be inappropriate for us to share sensitive information like personal home addresses if that is what you are seeking.

Request No. 8: Any and all documents reflecting Bullis Charter School's intent to comply with, or compliance with, California Office of the Attorney General Opinion No. 11-201 (December 26, 2018), including the conclusion that charter schools must comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act, the California Public Records Act, Government Code section 1090, and the Political Reform Act of 1974.

Response: Although the Attorney General's opinion is not a law necessitating an "intent to comply", we made reasonable efforts to locate responsive records, and it does not appear we possess any responsive records.

In any event, we note that BCS's charter petition explicitly describes BCS' commitment to comply with the CPRA, Ralph M. Brown Act, and Government Code section 1090.

Request No. 9: Any and all communications, including but not limited to correspondence and emails, reflecting Bullis Charter School's intent to comply with, or compliance with, California Office of the Attorney General Opinion No. 11-201 (December 26, 2018), including the conclusion that charter schools must comply with the Ralph M. Brown Act, the California Public Records Act, Government Code section 1090, and the Political Reform Act of 1974.

Response: Please see the Response to Request No. 8. Any records that may be responsive to this request would be subsumed by Request No. 8. Our response is the same.

Additionally, we note that your request appears to suggest that you believe that MVWSD has some sort of charter oversight authority over BCS under the Education Code simply because BCS serves a corporate role as a statutory member of Bullis Public Charter School II. You are incorrect. The Charter Schools Act provides districts certain oversight authority only over charter schools they *specifically authorize*. BCS is authorized by the Santa Clara County Board of Education, not MVWSD. In fact, BCS has never sought authorization from MVWSD.

If you have clarifications to Requests 1-3, please provide those and we will provide a follow up response as needed. Otherwise, BCS estimates providing copies of non-exempt records by March 29, 2019. BCS shall make copies available to you at \$0.10 per page. Please provide a deposit of \$50.00. If this deposit amount is inaccurate, we will seek additional funds or reimburse you accordingly. Please note BCS will not produce records until payment is received. Thank you for your interest in BCS.

Sincerely,

Wanny Hersey
Superintendent

Bullis Charter School