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ACLU of Massachusetts
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November 26, 2014

Maryellen Brunelle
Superintendent of Schools
5 West Street
Auburn, MA 01501

Re: Request for Public Records Relating to 1:1 Technology Programs

Dear Dr. Brunelle,

This is a request for public records under M.G.L. ch. 66, § 10 made on behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union Foundation of Massachusetts (ACLUM). ACLUM seeks public records relating to the use of personal technology by students in your school district. We are not requesting any personally identifiable student information.

An increasing number of schools provide students with a laptop, notebook, tablet, eBook reader, or other portable computer (“1:1 device”) that a single student will regularly use for at least half the academic year (“1:1 program”). ACLUM understands that your district has a 1:1 program.

We request the following documents relating to 1:1 programs and devices:


1. Any contracts, agreements, receipts, invoices, grants, or Memoranda of Understanding for:
 - a. The purchase or acquisition of 1:1 devices.
 - b. The purchase or acquisition of software to be installed on 1:1 devices.
2. Any rules, regulations, guidelines, handbooks, training materials, student and parent handouts, or other policy records that describe policies relating to:
 - a. Prevention of unauthorized access to 1:1 devices.
 - b. Remote access to the contents, functionality, use, or location of a 1:1 device.
 - c. Limitations on the applications or software that may be installed on a 1:1 device.
 - d. Limitations on the websites that may be accessed by a 1:1 device.
 - e. Distribution of 1:1 devices to students by purchase, lease, or loan.
 - f. Use of 1:1 devices by students on or off school grounds.
 - g. Inspection of the contents of a 1:1 device by anyone other than the student, whether by physical inspection, remote access, or both.
 - h. Notification in case of unauthorized access to a 1:1 device.

Because this request involves a matter of public concern and because it is made on behalf of a nonprofit organization, we ask that you waive any copying costs pursuant to 950 C.M.R. § 32.06(5), which encourages all custodians of public records to “waive fees where disclosure would benefit the public interest.” ACLUM is a nonprofit §501(c)(3) organization dedicated to the protection of civil rights and liberties for all persons in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts.

Whenever possible, we prefer to receive the documents electronically rather than in paper form. As you know, a custodian of public records shall comply with a request within ten days after receipt. If any part of this request is unclear, please contact me at 617-482-3170 ext. 314.

Thank you for your assistance. We look forward to your response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Mason Kortz', with a long, sweeping horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Mason Kortz
Legal Fellow
ACLU of Massachusetts