



Office of the Attorney General
State of Texas

DAN MORALES
ATTORNEY GENERAL

December 30, 1994

Ms. Merri Schneider-Vogel
Bracewell & Patterson
711 Louisiana Street, Suite 2900
Houston, Texas 77002-2781

OR94-864

Dear Ms. Schneider-Vogel:

You ask whether certain information is subject to required public disclosure under the Texas Open Records Act, Government Code chapter 552. We assigned your request ID# 26107.

The Friendswood Independent School District (the "school district"), which you represent, has received a request for information relating to the school district's selection of a new principal for Friendswood High School. Specifically, the requestor seeks "copies of the Administrative Applicant Forms, completed by members of the committees with whom the candidates interviewed as part of the [Friendswood High School] principal selection process[,] "any other paper work which may have been turned in to your office by the committee members" and "the results of the Rating Summary Form." You advise us that the school district has already made some of the requested information available to the requestor. You object, however, to release of the rating and ranking sheets filled out by each member of the committees and claim that section 552.111 of the Government Code exempts them from required public disclosure.

Section 552.111 of the Government Code exempts from disclosure an "interagency or intraagency memorandum or letter that would not be available by law to a party in litigation with the agency." In Open Records Decision No. 615 (1993), this office reexamined section 552.111 and concluded that it exempts from disclosure only those internal communications consisting of advice, recommendations, opinions, and other material reflecting the policymaking processes of the governmental body at issue. An agency's policymaking functions, however, do not encompass internal administrative or personnel matters. Open Records Decision No. 615 at 5-6.

You invite this office to reconsider its holding in Open Records Decision No. 615, which you believe was reached in error. We have examined the information submitted to us for review and have considered your arguments. We decline at this time to reconsider Open Records Decision No. 615. Accordingly, because the requested information relates to *internal personnel matters of the school district*, section 552.111 of the Government Code does not except it from required public disclosure. The school district must release the requested information in its entirety.

We are resolving this matter with an informal letter ruling rather than with a published open records decision. This ruling is limited to the particular records at issue under the facts presented to us in this request and may not be relied upon as a previous determination under section 552.301 regarding any other records. If you have questions about this ruling, please contact our office.

Yours very truly,



Margaret A. Roll
Assistant Attorney General
Open Government Section

MAR/GCK/rho

Ref.: ID# 26107

Enclosures: Submitted documents

cc: Ms. Myrlene Kennedy
702 Greenbriar
Friendswood, Texas 77546
(w/o enclosures)