From: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, June 10, 2020 4:29 PM **To:** Meyn, Colin <cmeyn@vtdigger.org>

Subject: RE: Public records request dated 5/5/20

Hi, Colin,

Records responsive to your additional request are attached. You will see redactions in two cases: cell phone numbers and the Attorney General's Office's press distribution list address.

Please let me know if you have any questions.

Charity

From: <u>Diamond, Joshua</u>
To: <u>Simmons, Emily</u>
Subject: Donation of Lap Tops

Date: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 5:03:00 PM

Emily,

Could you give me a call. I'm aware of a donor who wants to provide 250 lap tops to students in need during this COVID crisis.

My cell is

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Simmons, Emily
To: Diamond, Joshua
Subject: Re: Donation of Lap Tops

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 6:07:57 PM

Hi Josh,

I am sorry that I haven't called you back yet. This is a tremendous offer and I am sure we can assist in finding a contact for this donor. I am going to loop in Secretary French so that I can have complete information for you when we talk. Today was a lengthy State Board of Education meeting, held remotely. Tomorrow, I will be able to totally clear the decks!

Thanks very much,

Emily

From: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2020 5:03 PM

To: Simmons, Emily <Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>

Subject: Donation of Lap Tops

Emily,

Could you give me a call. I'm aware of a donor who wants to provide 250 lap tops to students in need during this COVID crisis.

My cell is

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Simmons, Emily

To: <u>Diamond, Joshua; Gaidys, Maureen; Sprague, Suzanne</u>
Subject: Lap Tops Donation - Scheduling a Call w/ Sec. French

Date: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 6:33:46 PM

Hi Josh,

Secretary French is really grateful that you reached out to ask about a possible donation of student lap tops. The Secretary is actually our in-house educational technology expert, so he'd like to be in on our phone call if that's okay with you?

I have copied Maureen and Suzanne in hopes that they can find a time tomorrow, 4/23, for a quick call with me, you and the Secretary.

Thanks very much, Emily

From: <u>Simmons, Emily</u>

To: <u>Diamond, Joshua</u>; <u>Gaidys, Maureen</u>

Cc: Sprague, Suzanne

Subject: Re: Lap Tops Donation - Scheduling a Call w/ Sec. French

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 8:11:18 AM

Thanks, Josh. I'll ring you at 8:30.

-Emily

Get Outlook for iOS

From: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 9:13:55 PM

To: Gaidys, Maureen < Maureen. Gaidys@vermont.gov>

Cc: Simmons, Emily <Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>; Sprague, Suzanne

<Suzanne.Sprague@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: Lap Tops Donation - Scheduling a Call w/ Sec. French

Folks,

8:30 works best. I'm block booked the rest of the day.

Let me know.

Regards, JOsh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Gaidys, Maureen < Maureen. Gaidys@vermont.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 6:44 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Cc: Simmons, Emily <Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>; Sprague, Suzanne

<Suzanne.Sprague@vermont.gov>

Subject: RE: Lap Tops Donation - Scheduling a Call w/ Sec. French

Hello Josh,

The following times are available for a call tomorrow with Secretary French and Emily Simmons:

8:30 a.m.; 9:00 a.m. and 10:15 a.m.; 2:00 p.m.; 2:15 p.m.

Please advise which works best and I will send an invite via Teams.

Stay well,

Maureen

Maureen Gaidys Executive Assistant Vermont Agency of Education – Secretary's Office

1 National Life Drive, Davis 5

Montpelier VT 05620-2501

802-828-0047

<u>COVID-19</u> Information from the Vermont Department of Health <u>COVID-19</u> Guidance for Vermont Schools

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

PLEASE READ CAREFULLY: Due to the nature of the Secretary's duties to the State of Vermont and its citizens, there are occasions when the Secretary needs to cancel and/or postpone meetings or events in order to attend to pressing state matters. Please keep this in mind when planning for events.

From: Simmons, Emily < Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2020 6:34 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua.Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>; Gaidys, Maureen

< <u>Maureen.Gaidys@vermont.gov</u>>; Sprague, Suzanne < <u>Suzanne.Sprague@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Lap Tops Donation - Scheduling a Call w/ Sec. French

Hi Josh,

Secretary French is really grateful that you reached out to ask about a possible donation of student lap tops. The Secretary is actually our in-house educational technology expert, so he'd like to be in on our phone call if that's okay with you?

I have copied Maureen and Suzanne in hopes that they can find a time tomorrow, 4/23, for a quick call with me, you and the Secretary.

Thanks very much, Emily

From: Diamond, Joshua
To: Simmons, Emily
Subject: Computers

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 9:39:00 AM

Emily,

We just confirmed the computers are Chrome Books.

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: French, Daniel To: Diamond, Joshua Cc: Simmons, Emily

Subject: Laptops

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 2:31:06 PM

Hi Josh,

We identified a list of districts for this generous donation. I reached to the one of the superintendents and it looks like she is not on her email today. I will follow up with her tomorrow.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D. Secretary of Education Vermont Agency of Education 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 Montpelier VT 05620-2501 +1 (802) 828-1130 daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench From: French, Daniel
To: Diamond, Joshua

Cc: <u>Emilie Knisley</u>; <u>Simmons, Emily</u>; <u>DeCarolis, Jess</u>

Subject: Laptops

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:16:38 PM

Hi Josh,

Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford would be very interested in the Chromebooks. Their superintendent, Emilie Knisley, is CCed on this email.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
+1 (802) 828-1130
daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: <u>Diamond, Joshua</u>
To: <u>French, Daniel</u>

Cc: <u>Emilie Knisley</u>; <u>Simmons, Emily</u>; <u>DeCarolis, Jess</u>

Subject: RE: Laptops

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 5:02:00 PM

Secretary French,

Thank you. Superintendent Knisley, is there a convenient time to connect by telephone? Early morning and late afternoons generally work best for me.

Let me know. My cell is

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: French, Daniel < Daniel. French@vermont.gov>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Cc: Emilie Knisley <emilie.knisley@oesu.org>; Simmons, Emily <Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>;

DeCarolis, Jess < Jess. DeCarolis@vermont.gov>

Subject: Laptops

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Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

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Secretary of Education
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1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
+1 (802) 828-1130
daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: Emilie Knisley
To: Diamond, Joshua
Subject: Out of Office RE: Laptops

Date: Thursday, April 23, 2020 5:02:41 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

I am out of office today. If you have an urgent matter, please contact OESU at 222-5216 during normal business hours.

--

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. —John Fitzgerald Kennedy

From: **Emilie Knisley** Diamond, Joshua To: Subject: Re: Laptops

Date: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:57:12 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Josh,

This afternoon would be fine for me. Let me know what works for you and I will give you a call. My cell is

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL

Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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On Thu, Apr 23, 2020 at 5:02 PM Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>> wrote: Secretary French, Thank you. Superintendent Knisley, is there a convenient time to connect by telephone? Early morning and late afternoons generally work best for me. Let me know. My cell is Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General

Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05609

802-828-3175

joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: French, Daniel < <u>Daniel.French@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>; Simmons, Emily

<<u>Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov</u>>; DeCarolis, Jess <<u>Jess.DeCarolis@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Laptops

Hi Josh,

Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford would be very interested in the Chromebooks. Their superintendent, Emilie Knisley, is CCed on this email.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.

Secretary of Education Vermont Agency of Education 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 Montpelier VT 05620-2501 +1 (802) 828-1130 daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench
 From:
 Diamond, Joshua

 To:
 Emilie Knisley

 Subject:
 RE: Laptops

Date: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:59:00 AM

Emilie,

Could I call around the noon hour, or sometime after 4:30?

Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Emilie Knisley <emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:57 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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Josh.

This afternoon would be fine for me. Let me know what works for you and I will give you a call. My

cell is

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL

Superintendent

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Let me know. My cell is

Best, Josh

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Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Emilie Knisley <<u>emilie.knisley@oesu.org</u>>; Simmons, Emily <<u>Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov</u>>;

DeCarolis, Jess < Jess.DeCarolis@vermont.gov>

Subject: Laptops

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Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

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daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: Emilie Knisley
To: Diamond, Joshua
Subject: Re: Laptops

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:56:38 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Joshua,

We will gladly take all 250 chromebooks. It would be best if we could have them delivered to Blue Mountain Union School; we will disperse them from there. The address would be:

Blue Mountain Union School 2420 Route 302 Wells River, VT 05081

Statement: The donation of these chromebooks will enable schools in Orange East Supervisory Union to connect our students in need of technology to on-line learning services provided by our schools. The devices will be distributed to four of our schools, where students are currently working without technology. These devices will enable us to connect many families that previously were unable to access learning through a laptop. Without this donation, we did not have the funds in our local budget to make this possible for our students and families. We appreciate the support of Comcast in making this possible for our schools. This is a big step forward in breaking down the digital divide between students and technology.

Please let me know what else I can provide, and thank you very much for your support.

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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On Fri, Apr 24, 2020 at 7:59 AM Emilie Knisley <<u>emilie.knisley@oesu.org</u>> wrote:

Noon would be just fine.

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL

Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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Emilie,

Could I call around the noon hour, or sometime after 4:30?

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Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General

Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

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joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:57 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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+1 (802) 828-1130
daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

 From:
 Diamond, Joshua

 To:
 Emilie Knisley

 Subject:
 RE: Laptops

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 10:02:00 AM

Emilie,

Can you provide me with the street address for Blue Mountain Union School.

Also, could you identify the specific schools that will receive the computers.

Many thanks. Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:56 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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Joshua,

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Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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Subject: Re: Laptops

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This afternoon would be fine for me. Let me know what works for you and I will give you a call.

My cell is .

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. —John Fitzgerald Kennedy

On Thu, Apr 23, 2020 at 5:02 PM Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua.Diamond@vermont.gov</u>> wrote:

Secretary French,

Thank you. Superintendent Knisley, is there a convenient time to connect by telephone? Early morning and late afternoons generally work best for me.

Let me know. My cell is

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: French, Daniel < <u>Daniel.French@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Emilie Knisley < <u>emilie.knisley@oesu.org</u>>; Simmons, Emily

<<u>Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov</u>>; DeCarolis, Jess <<u>Jess.DeCarolis@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Laptops

Hi Josh,

Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford would be very interested in the Chromebooks. Their superintendent, Emilie Knisley, is CCed on this email.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
+1 (802) 828-1130

daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: **Emilie Knisley** Diamond, Joshua To: Subject: Re: Laptops

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 10:21:03 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The street address is 2420 Route 302, Wells River, VT 05081

The schools are: Blue Mountain Union School, Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley School.

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL

Superintendent

802-828-3175

joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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On Mon, Apr 27, 2020 at 10:03 AM Diamond, Joshua < Joshua, Diamond@vermont.gov>

rote:
Emilie,
Can you provide me with the street address for Blue Mountain Union School.
Also, could you identify the specific schools that will receive the computers.
Many thanks. Josh
Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General
Vermont Attorney General's Office
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609

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From: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 9:56 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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Joshua,

We will gladly take all 250 chromebooks. It would be best if we could have them delivered to Blue Mountain Union School; we will disperse them from there. The address would be:

Blue Mountain Union School

2420 Route 302

Wells River, VT 05081

Statement: The donation of these chromebooks will enable schools in Orange East Supervisory Union to connect our students in need of technology to on-line learning services provided by our schools. The devices will be distributed to four of our schools, where students are currently working without technology. These devices will enable us to connect many families that previously were unable to access learning through a laptop. Without this donation, we did not have the funds in our local budget to make this possible for our students and families. We appreciate the support of Comcast in making this possible for our

schools. This is a big step forward in breaking down the digital divide between students and technology.
Please let me know what else I can provide, and thank you very much for your support.
Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL
Superintendent
Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216
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Superintendent
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Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05609

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https://www.sec.state.vt.us/elections/lobbying.aspx.

From: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:57 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Laptops

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

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Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>; Simmons, Emily

< <u>Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov</u>>; DeCarolis, Jess < <u>Jess.DeCarolis@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Laptops

Hi Josh,

Orange East Supervisory Union in Bradford would be very interested in the Chromebooks. Their superintendent, Emilie Knisley, is CCed on this email.

Let me know if there is anything else I can do to assist with this.

We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D. Secretary of Education

Vermont Agency of Education 1 National Life Drive, Davis 5 Montpelier VT 05620-2501 +1 (802) 828-1130 daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench From: Diamond, Joshua
To: Clark, Charity
Subject: FW: Laptops

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 1:07:00 PM

FYI. Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Emilie Knisley <emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 10:21 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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Please let me know what else I can provide, and thank you very much for your support.

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Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

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Sent: Friday, April 24, 2020 7:57 AM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Re: Laptops

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Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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Sent: Thursday, April 23, 2020 4:17 PM

To: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Emilie Knisley <<u>emilie.knisley@oesu.org</u>>; Simmons, Emily

<<u>Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov</u>>; DeCarolis, Jess <<u>Jess.DeCarolis@vermont.gov</u>>

Subject: Laptops

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We greatly appreciate your help.

Dan

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education
1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
+1 (802) 828-1130

daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: Emilie Knisley
To: Diamond, Joshua
Subject: Re: Computers

Date: Tuesday, April 28, 2020 11:15:07 AM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Great, thanks for the update! Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent Orange East Supervisory Union

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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On Tue, Apr 28, 2020 at 10:30 AM Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua.Diamond@vermont.gov</u>> wrote:

Emilie,

I have some good news. The number of computers is back to 250. I hope to have an estimated time of delivery from Comcast by the end of the week.

All the best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General

Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

Montpelier, Vermont 05609

802-828-3175

joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: <u>Diamond, Joshua</u>

To: <u>Emilie Knisley</u>; <u>French, Daniel</u>

Cc: <u>Emily Simmons (Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov)</u>

Subject: Computers

Date: Friday, May 1, 2020 6:37:00 PM

Superintendent Knisley and Secretary French,

I just heard the computers have been shipped with a tentative delivery for Monday.

Wishing you both a good weekend.

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Emilie Knisley
To: French, Daniel

Cc: <u>Diamond, Joshua; Simmons, Emily</u>

Subject: Re: Computers

Date: Friday, May 1, 2020 8:59:08 PM

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Thank you!

On Friday, May 1, 2020, French, Daniel < <u>Daniel.French@vermont.gov</u>> wrote:

Thank you!

Dan French

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education

1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
+1 (802) 828-1130
daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

From: Diamond, Joshua < <u>Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 6:37:44 PM

To: Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org>; French, Daniel < Daniel.French@vermont.gov>

Cc: Simmons, Emily < Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>

Subject: Computers

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Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General

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Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396

PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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From: <u>Diamond, Joshua</u>

To:Emilie Knisley; French, DanielCc:Simmons, Emily; Clark, Charity

Subject: RE: Computers

Date: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:52:00 AM

Attachments: <u>image001.png</u>

Fantastic. Our folks will be in touch about a press release.

Best, Josh

Joshua R. Diamond, Deputy Attorney General Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3175 joshua.diamond@vermont.gov

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From: Emilie Knisley <emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 9:29 AM

To: French, Daniel < Daniel. French@vermont.gov>

Cc: Diamond, Joshua < Joshua. Diamond@vermont.gov>; Simmons, Emily

<Emily.Simmons@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Computers

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

The computers have arrived. Thank you all!



Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL Superintendent

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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On Fri, May 1, 2020 at 8:59 PM Emilie Knisley < emilie.knisley@oesu.org > wrote:

Thank you!

On Friday, May 1, 2020, French, Daniel < <u>Daniel.French@vermont.gov</u>> wrote:

Thank you!

Dan French

Daniel M. French, Ed.D.
Secretary of Education
Vermont Agency of Education

1 National Life Drive, Davis 5
Montpelier VT 05620-2501
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daniel.french@vermont.gov | @danfrench

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Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

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From: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

To: <u>Fisher, Ted; Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: Clark, Charity

Subject:RE: Chromebooks donation press releaseDate:Tuesday, May 5, 2020 11:22:00 AMAttachments:Chromebooks Press Release 5.5.20.pdf

Hello Ted and Kate,

Attached is the final version of the press release that was sent out at 9:30AM this morning. Thanks again for partnering with us on this project.

All the best,

Lauren

Lauren Jandl Assistant Director of Communications

Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609

Cell: 802-595-8679 Desk: 802-828-3173

Email: <u>lauren.jandl@vermont.gov</u>

From: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>; Connizzo, Kate < Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren <Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Hi Charity:

Apologies for the delay on this. See below for a quote from Sec. French:

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education **Dan French**. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange East."

V/r,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs AOE COVID-19 Response Manager

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

<u>COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health</u> <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools</u>

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: Clark, Charity < <u>Charity.Clark@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:42 PM

To: Fisher, Ted <<u>Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov</u>>; Connizzo, Kate <<u>Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Apologies – I got the number of Chromebooks wrong. A revised draft is attached.

Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

To: Fisher, Ted < Ted. Fisher@vermont.gov >; Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609

STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL **109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

May 5, 2020

802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

250 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General T.J. Donovan announced that he secured from Comcast a donation of 250 Chromebooks that were donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River. Students who are slotted to receive these Chromebooks attend Blue Mountain Union School, Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley School.

"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education Dan French. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange-East."

"The 250 Chromebooks will connect many students previously unable to access on-line remote learning," said Superintendent Emilie Knisley. "We did not have the funds in our local budgets available to bridge this divide in connectivity. We appreciate the support of Attorney General Donovan, Secretary French, and Comcast in making this possible for the students of Orange-East Supervisory Union. This is a big step forward in breaking down the digital divide between students and technology."

"As Vermont continues to manage the COVID-19 emergency, we recognize that our company plays an important role in helping Vermont students and families stay connected," said Dennis Mathew, Senior Vice President of Comcast's Western New England Region, which includes Vermont. "We are continuing to deliver the network speeds and capacity our Vermont customers need while they're working, learning and connecting from home, as well as help more residents gain access to broadband through initiatives like this and our Comcast Internet Essentials program. We appreciate the work Attorney General T.J. Donovan and his team do to make sure Vermonters get the resources they need, especially during this extraordinary time."

The Chromebooks were delivered on Monday, May 4, 2020.

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>

To: <u>Fisher, Ted; Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

Subject:RE: Chromebooks donation press releaseDate:Monday, April 27, 2020 3:41:40 PMAttachments:Chromebooks Press Release.docx

Apologies – I got the number of Chromebooks wrong. A revised draft is attached. Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

To: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>; Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < Lauren. Jandl@vermont.gov> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
802-828-3171

STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 109 STATE STREET

MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2020

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

250 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General Donovan today announced that he secured from Comcast a

donation of 250 Chromebooks to be donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont

school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory

Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools

servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River.

Students who are slotted to receive these Chromebooks attend Blue Mountain Union School,

Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley

School.

"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General

Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these

Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"[Quote from Agency of Education Secretary]"

"[Quote from Superintendent Emilie Knisley]"

The Chromebooks will be delivered on [DATE].

###

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>

To: Fisher, Ted; Connizzo, Kate

Cc: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

Subject: Chromebooks donation press release

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:37:36 PM

Attachments: Chromebooks Press Release.docx

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
802-828-3171

STATE OF VERMONT
OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL
109 STATE STREET

MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2020

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

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100 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General Donovan today announced that he secured from Comcast a

donation of 100 Chromebooks to be donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont

school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory

Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools

servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River.

Students who are slotted to receive these Chromebooks attend Blue Mountain Union School,

Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley

School.

"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General

Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these

Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"[Quote from Agency of Education Secretary]"

"[Quote from Superintendent Emilie Knisley]"

The Chromebooks will be delivered on [DATE].

###

From: Fisher, Ted
To: Clark, Charity

Subject: Automatic reply: Chromebooks donation press release

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:37:37 PM

Hello:

I am working on the State of Vermont response to the COVID-19. My reply to your email may be delayed.

Thank you for your understanding

Best wishes,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs *AOE COVID-19 Response Manager*

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health
COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools
Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: <u>Fisher, Ted</u>

To: <u>Jandl, Lauren; Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: Clark, Charity

Subject: RE: Chromebooks donation press release Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 11:24:08 AM

Thank you Lauren!!

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs AOE COVID-19 Response Manager

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health

COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: Jandl, Lauren <Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 11:23 AM

To: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>; Connizzo, Kate <Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov>

Cc: Clark, Charity < Charity.Clark@vermont.gov> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Hello Ted and Kate,

Attached is the final version of the press release that was sent out at 9:30AM this morning. Thanks again for partnering with us on this project.

All the best,

Lauren

Lauren Jandl

Assistant Director of Communications

Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05609 Cell: 802-595-8679

Desk: 802-828-3173

Email: <u>lauren.jandl@vermont.gov</u>

From: Fisher, Ted < <u>Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Clark, Charity < Charity.Clark@vermont.gov">Clark, Charity.Clark@vermont.gov>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Hi Charity:

Apologies for the delay on this. See below for a quote from Sec. French:

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education **Dan French**. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange East."

V/r,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs *AOE COVID-19 Response Manager*

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

<u>COVID-19</u> Information from the Vermont Department of Health <u>COVID-19</u> Guidance for Vermont Schools

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Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:42 PM

To: Fisher, Ted < Ted. Fisher@vermont.gov >; Connizzo, Kate < Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov >

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Apologies – I got the number of Chromebooks wrong. A revised draft is attached.

Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

To: Fisher, Ted < Ted. Fisher@vermont.gov >; Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

Hi, Ted and Kate,

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Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
802-828-3171

From: <u>Fisher, Ted</u>

To: <u>Clark, Charity; Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

Subject: RE: Chromebooks donation press release Date: Friday, May 1, 2020 1:57:22 PM

Hi Charity:

Apologies for the delay on this. See below for a quote from Sec. French:

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education **Dan French**. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange East."

V/r,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs *AOE COVID-19 Response Manager*

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Connect with AOE on <u>Twitter</u>, <u>Facebook</u>, or the <u>Web</u>

COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health

COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:42 PM

To: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>; Connizzo, Kate <Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < Lauren. Jandl@vermont.gov> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

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Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

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Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

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Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
802-828-3171

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>
To: <u>Emilie Knisley</u>

Subject: RE: Chromebooks press release

Date: Monday, May 4, 2020 2:17:00 PM

Thank you for your speedy reply, Superintendent! I'm so glad to hear the computers are in hand. This quote is perfect. I will send a copy of the release once it goes out.

Charity

From: Emilie Knisley <emilie.knisley@oesu.org>

Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 1:54 PM

To: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>

Subject: Re: Chromebooks press release

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Charity,

Thank you for reaching out. The computers were delivered to the school today. Here is a quote, feel free to use/edit.

Statement: The 250 chromebooks will connect many students previously unable to access on-line remote learning. We did not have the funds in our local budgets available to bridge this divide in connectivity. We appreciate the support of Attorney General Donovan, Secretary French, and Comcast in making this possible for the students of Orange East SU. This is a big step forward in breaking down the digital divide between students and technology.

Emilie B. Knisley, M.Ed., CAGS, CAEL **Superintendent**

Orange East Supervisory Union PO Box 396 Bradford, VT 05033 (802)222-5216

Change is the law of life. And those who look only to the past or present are certain to miss the future. —John Fitzgerald Kennedy

On Mon, May 4, 2020 at 1:39 PM Clark, Charity < Charity.Clark@vermont.gov wrote:

Dear Superintendent Knisley:

In follow up to my voicemail, attached please find the press release we plan to send today or tomorrow announcing the exciting donation of Chromebooks to OESU. If you would like to provide a quote, please let me know. You will see we have a placeholder in the draft release for you.

I can be reached by email or on my cell phone (802-917-1993).

Thank you! Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609
802-828-3171

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>
To: <u>Emilie Knisley</u>

Subject: FW: Press Release: AG Donovan Partners with Comcast to Address Shortage of Laptops in Time of Remote

Learning

Date: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 10:26:00 AM
Attachments: Chromebooks Press Release 5.5.20.pdf

Here is the release!

Charity

From: Jandl, Lauren <Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov>

Sent: Tuesday, May 5, 2020 9:23 AM

To:

Subject: Press Release: AG Donovan Partners with Comcast to Address Shortage of Laptops in Time

of Remote Learning

STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: CONTACT: Charity R. Clark May 5, 2020 802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

250 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

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Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

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Vermont customers need while they're working, learning and connecting from home, as well

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Internet Essentials program. We appreciate the work Attorney General T.J. Donovan and his

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extraordinary time."

The Chromebooks were delivered on Monday, May 4, 2020.

###

Lauren Jandl

Assistant Director of Communications

Vermont Attorney General's Office

109 State Street

Montpelier, VT 05609

Cell: 802-595-8679 Desk: 802-828-3173

Email: lauren.jandl@vermont.gov

STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL **109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

May 5, 2020

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

802-828-3171

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The Chromebooks were delivered on Monday, May 4, 2020.

From: <u>Fisher, Ted</u>
To: <u>Clark, Charity</u>

Subject: RE: Public records request dated 5/5/20 Date: Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:52:17 PM

Thanks Charity!

Hope you are well.

V/r,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs AOE COVID-19 Response Manager

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

<u>COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health</u> <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools</u>

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:49 PM **To:** Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>

Subject: FW: Public records request dated 5/5/20

Just an FYI. Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 12:30 PM **To:** Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org >

Subject: RE: Public records request dated 5/5/20

Hi, Colin,

A while back, the Attorney General participated in an event in Burlington with Comcast about their Internet Essentials program. At the end of the program, Comcast gave out laptops to the attendees at the event. When Molly Gray shared her concerns with Attorney General Donovan about children in communities not having access to computers, AG Donovan was reminded of the Comcast event. He reached out to Comcast to see if they would be interested in donating computers to a Vermont community in need. Several conversations were conducted by phone. As to who determined the community, we asked the Agency of Education who they thought would be in need. They named three school districts, and all three were offered computers. Orange-East responded that some of

their students were in need of computers, and computers were delivered to this district.

The Attorney General is extremely thankful to Comcast for this donation.

Charity

From: Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org>
Sent: Thursday, May 28, 2020 11:11 AM

To: Clark, Charity < <u>Charity.Clark@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: Public records request dated 5/5/20

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi Charity,

Do you know when you will be available to talk today?

-C

On Wed, May 27, 2020 at 4:27 PM Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org > wrote:

Thanks Charity. What time should I expect to hear from you?

-C

On Wed, May 27, 2020 at 4:12 PM Clark, Charity < charity.clark@vermont.gov> wrote:

Hi, Colin,

I'll get in touch tomorrow.

Charity

From: Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org>
Sent: Wednesday, May 27, 2020 3:39 PM

To: Clark, Charity < <u>Charity.Clark@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Re: Public records request dated 5/5/20

EXTERNAL SENDER: Do not open attachments or click on links unless you recognize and trust the sender.

Hi Charity,

Please let me know today if TJ is available to discuss this story.

Best,

On Wed, May 27, 2020 at 11:00 AM Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org > wrote:

Just fyi, my main question is where are the communications leading up to this email from the AG (copied below in blue)? It's clear that this is not the beginning of the conversation with John...was there a phone call? What was discussed? How was Orange-East SU selected as the recipient of these donations? Did TJ discuss the matter with Molly Gray at any point between April 16 and May 4?

Hoping you can help bring some clarity to how the AG/Comcast got to this email exchange...

Best,

Colin

From: Donovan, Thomas < Thomas.Donovan@vermont.gov>
Sent: Monday, May 4, 2020 1:03 PM
To: Sutich, John >

John,
Connecting you with Lauren.
Thanks again,
TJD

On Wed, May 27, 2020 at 10:42 AM Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org > wrote:

Hi Charity,

Would you have time to discuss this tomorrow? Either 10:30-12 or 1:00-2:30 are ideal for me, but let me know what works for you...

-C

On Wed, May 20, 2020 at 4:28 PM Colin Meyn < cmeyn@vtdigger.org > wrote:

Thanks Charity. I'll get back to you soon with any additional questions.

Best,

-C

On Tue, May 19, 2020 at 8:32 PM Clark, Charity < Charity.Clark@vermont.gov> wrote:

Please see attached.

Charity R. Clark Chief of Staff Office of the Attorney General 109 State Street Montpelier, Vermont 05609 802-828-3171

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Colin Meyn Managing Editor VTDigger.org (802)777-2958

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Colin Meyn Managing Editor VTDigger.org (802)777-2958 From: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

To: <u>Fisher, Ted</u>; <u>Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: Clark, Charity

Subject:RE: Chromebooks donation press releaseDate:Tuesday, May 5, 2020 11:22:00 AMAttachments:Chromebooks Press Release 5.5.20.pdf

Hello Ted and Kate,

Attached is the final version of the press release that was sent out at 9:30AM this morning. Thanks again for partnering with us on this project.

All the best,

Lauren

Lauren Jandl Assistant Director of Communications

Vermont Attorney General's Office 109 State Street Montpelier, VT 05609

Cell: 802-595-8679 Desk: 802-828-3173

Email: <u>lauren.jandl@vermont.gov</u>

From: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>

Sent: Friday, May 1, 2020 1:57 PM

To: Clark, Charity < Charity. Clark@vermont.gov>; Connizzo, Kate < Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren <Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Hi Charity:

Apologies for the delay on this. See below for a quote from Sec. French:

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education **Dan French**. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange East."

V/r,

-Ted-

Ted Fisher, Agency of Education – Director of Communications and Legislative Affairs AOE COVID-19 Response Manager

o) 802-828-0046 | m) 802-595-5562 | e) ted.fisher@vermont.gov 1 National Life Drive | Davis 5 | Montpelier, VT 05620-2501 Connect with AOE on Twitter, Facebook, or the Web

<u>COVID-19 Information from the Vermont Department of Health</u> <u>COVID-19 Guidance for Vermont Schools</u>

Questions about COVID-19? Dial 2-1-1

From: Clark, Charity < <u>Charity.Clark@vermont.gov</u>>

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:42 PM

To: Fisher, Ted <<u>Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov</u>>; Connizzo, Kate <<u>Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov</u>>

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** RE: Chromebooks donation press release

Apologies – I got the number of Chromebooks wrong. A revised draft is attached.

Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

To: Fisher, Ted < Ted. Fisher@vermont.gov >; Kate. Connizzo@vermont.gov

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < <u>Lauren.Jandl@vermont.gov</u>> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
Chief of Staff
Office of the Attorney General
109 State Street
Montpelier, Vermont 05609

STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL **109 STATE STREET MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

May 5, 2020

802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

250 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General T.J. Donovan announced that he secured from Comcast a donation of 250 Chromebooks that were donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River. Students who are slotted to receive these Chromebooks attend Blue Mountain Union School, Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley School.

"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"Ensuring students have access to the resources to support their learning is critical during this time of Continuity of Learning," said Secretary of Education Dan French. "I am grateful to Comcast for their generosity, and to the Attorney General for working to organize this donation to Orange-East."

"The 250 Chromebooks will connect many students previously unable to access on-line remote learning," said Superintendent Emilie Knisley. "We did not have the funds in our local budgets available to bridge this divide in connectivity. We appreciate the support of Attorney General Donovan, Secretary French, and Comcast in making this possible for the students of Orange-East Supervisory Union. This is a big step forward in breaking down the digital divide between students and technology."

"As Vermont continues to manage the COVID-19 emergency, we recognize that our company plays an important role in helping Vermont students and families stay connected," said Dennis Mathew, Senior Vice President of Comcast's Western New England Region, which includes Vermont. "We are continuing to deliver the network speeds and capacity our Vermont customers need while they're working, learning and connecting from home, as well as help more residents gain access to broadband through initiatives like this and our Comcast Internet Essentials program. We appreciate the work Attorney General T.J. Donovan and his team do to make sure Vermonters get the resources they need, especially during this extraordinary time."

The Chromebooks were delivered on Monday, May 4, 2020.

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>

To: <u>Fisher, Ted</u>; <u>Connizzo, Kate</u>

Cc: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

Subject:RE: Chromebooks donation press releaseDate:Monday, April 27, 2020 3:41:40 PMAttachments:Chromebooks Press Release.docx

Apologies – I got the number of Chromebooks wrong. A revised draft is attached. Charity

From: Clark, Charity

Sent: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:38 PM

To: Fisher, Ted <Ted.Fisher@vermont.gov>; Kate.Connizzo@vermont.gov

Cc: Jandl, Lauren < Lauren. Jandl@vermont.gov> **Subject:** Chromebooks donation press release

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

As for timing, we were thinking of sending out the press release tomorrow. Another option would be waiting until the day the Chromebooks are delivered to the District. Do you know the date that is scheduled?

Thanks, Charity

Charity R. Clark
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STATE OF VERMONT OFFICE OF THE ATTORNEY GENERAL 109 STATE STREET

MONTPELIER, VT 05609-1001

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2020

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

802-828-3171

ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

250 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General Donovan today announced that he secured from Comcast a

donation of 250 Chromebooks to be donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont

school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory

Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools

servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River.

Students who are slotted to receive these Chromebooks attend Blue Mountain Union School,

Newbury Elementary School, River Bend Career and Technical Center, and Waits River Valley

School.

"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General

Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these

Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"[Quote from Agency of Education Secretary]"

"[Quote from Superintendent Emilie Knisley]"

The Chromebooks will be delivered on [DATE].

###

From: <u>Clark, Charity</u>

To: Fisher, Ted; Connizzo, Kate

Cc: <u>Jandl, Lauren</u>

Subject: Chromebooks donation press release

Date: Monday, April 27, 2020 3:37:36 PM

Attachments: Chromebooks Press Release.docx

Hi, Ted and Kate,

Lauren and I are putting together a press release announcing the donation of 250 Chromebooks to Orange-East Supervisory. This is just the kind of "good news" Vermonters will be glad to see! Would the Secretary or someone else from the Agency of Education like to include a quote? We were also thinking of reaching out to Superintendent Knisley to see if she wanted to include a quote. A draft release is attached. Please let me know if you have any edits.

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Thanks, Charity

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

April 28, 2020

CONTACT: Charity R. Clark

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ATTORNEY GENERAL DONOVAN PARTNERS WITH COMCAST TO ADDRESS SHORTAGE OF LAPTOPS IN TIME OF REMOTE LEARNING

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100 Chromebooks Delivered to Orange-East Supervisory Union Students

MONTPELIER – Attorney General Donovan today announced that he secured from Comcast a

donation of 100 Chromebooks to be donated to a Vermont school district in need. As Vermont

school children have shifted to remote learning, some pupils in the Orange-East Supervisory

Union (OESU) did not have reliable access to tablets or computers. OESU consists of schools

servicing Bradford, Newbury, Corinth, Groton, Ryegate, Thetford, Topsham, and Wells River.

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"I want to thank Comcast for making this investment in our future," Attorney General

Donovan said. "This is a challenging time for students, teachers, and parents. I know these

Chromebooks will make all the difference to those who receive them."

"[Quote from Agency of Education Secretary]"

"[Quote from Superintendent Emilie Knisley]"

The Chromebooks will be delivered on [DATE].

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