



# Enhancing community transparency: how **Diligent Community** can help

Public transparency continues to be a top concern for most school districts. Over a 3-month period this school year, an Arkansas district received over 100 FOIA (Freedom of Information Act) requests which cost nearly \$20,000 and 400 staff hours to fulfill.

With school boards receiving what has been called a 'historic flood' of FOIA requests, many have been forced to reallocate precious funding and staff resources towards processing these requests, taking resources away from what really matters — students' academic needs.

## Diligent Community's powerful transparency features

Now more than ever is the time to get ahead of the record requests by making your district as transparent as possible. Diligent Community's Public Transparency website is not only a reliable go-to source for official information for your constituents but also includes powerful features that can help your community stay informed and engaged.



### Stay informed with automatic notifications

Diligent Community's automatic notifications ensure that parents and community members never miss an important meeting or update by sending email or text notifications in advance. This promotes transparency by providing ample opportunity for feedback and input on key issues.



### Quick access with advanced search

Diligent Community's powerful search function enables parents and constituents to easily search for specific information in prior meeting agendas, minutes, policies, and other documents. No more trawling through multiple 300-page agenda packets for the relevant details; Diligent Community's powerful search feature can be sorted by date or relevance and it will take them directly to the agenda item they are looking for.



### Efficient request to speak

The public can submit a Request to Speak online, allowing for efficient management and approval of requests by administrators. This feature ensures that board decisions reflect the needs and perspectives of the entire community, enhancing public transparency.



### Add accessibility with live-streaming

Diligent Community's live-streaming and recording capabilities make meetings more accessible to the community. Live-streaming reaches a wider audience, while recorded videos are embedded alongside meeting agendas and minutes, allowing the public to jump to the section that is most relevant to them. This promotes public transparency by keeping community members up-to-date on board decisions and discussions.

Using Diligent Community can be an effective way for district school boards to promote transparency and positive community engagement. We have helped other organizations build trust with their constituents and get in front of the FOIA requests. To find out how Diligent Community can help you, schedule a conversation with one of our team today.

**To learn more about Diligent Community, contact us today:**

Email: [community@diligent.com](mailto:community@diligent.com) | Visit: [diligent.com/community](https://diligent.com/community)

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