

SUBJECT: STUDENT DATA BREACHES

A student data breach is defined as any instance in which there is an unauthorized release of, or access to, personally identifiable information (PII) or other protected information of students not suitable for public release.

The District has a legal responsibility to protect the privacy of education data, including PII, of its students. The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), protects the privacy of student education records. Although FERPA does not include specific data breach notification requirements, it does protect the confidentiality of education records and requires districts to record each incident of data disclosure. In addition, under state law, direct notification of parents and/or affected students may be warranted depending on the type of data compromised, such as student social security numbers or other identifying information that could lead to identity theft.

The District has implemented privacy and security measures designed to protect student data stored in its student data management systems. These measures include reviewing information systems and data to identify where PII is stored and used; monitoring data systems to detect potential breaches; and conducting privacy and security awareness training for appropriate staff. In the event of a suspected breach, the District will promptly take steps to validate the breach, mitigate any loss or damage, and notify law enforcement if necessary.