



WPSBA Statement on Student Data and Privacy Issues

Student Data Security: It's first and foremost about students, and then it's about the data... and then it's about security. It currently seems to be turned the other way around!

"They're our students; they're not data points."

WE SUPPORT the collection of data that is proven to benefit student learning, inform professional development and/or address equity in our schools.

WE SUPPORT accountability at all levels.

WE SUPPORT disaggregating sensitive student data from the student name and their school identifier number in the EngageNY Data Portal.

WE SUPPORT legislation that would allow the disclosure, but NOT the re-disclosure, of student data. Parental rights must be sacrosanct and FERPA re-disclosure parameters must be upheld from day one.

WE SUPPORT maintaining a difference between school district data and SED data. Sensitive student data should be kept in "silos" so that it can be tightly managed and only shared on an "as needed" basis. There should be local management of what data is transmitted and to whom.

WE SUPPORT allowing a local school district to use a locally selected product or system if it accomplishes the spirit and goals of a state sponsored effort. Local school districts should be permitted to continue to use a current system or practice if it can be shown to mirror or exceed the functionality and results of the state sanctioned mandate.

WE SUPPORT an ROI analysis of the EngageNY Data Portal, and a cost - benefit review on the state and school district levels, including cost and time to input and implement.

WE SUPPORT regular communication with the field during any SED initiative.

WE SUPPORT standards, but WE DO **NOT** SUPPORT standardization.

WE DO **NOT** SUPPORT a one size fits all approach to every public school district and student.

WE DO **NOT** SUPPORT the collection of data solely to evaluate teachers or rate schools.

WE DO **NOT** SUPPORT outside vendors or organizations profiting through the use of "free" school district data.