Education Data Portal Implementation Update

Supporting Common Core Learning Standards and College- and Career-Readiness

Board of Regents
April 2013

Data System Milestones

- P-16 Data System MOU among NYSED, SUNY, CUNY, NYC, Syracuse, and Yonkers (2008)
- IES 1 - $7.8 MM (2009)
- IES 2 - $19.7 MM (2010)
- State Capital Funds - $20.4 MM (2010)
- RTTT - ~$60 MM for data system (2010)
- Board of Regents SLC Strategy Authorization – December 2011
- Approved EDP Contracts (2013) –
  - Content Management and System Services with PCG - $31 MM
  - Data Dashboard Services with ConnectEDU, eScholar, and Pearson/SchoolNet - $19.5 MM
  - Independent Verification and Validation with NYSTEC - $3 MM

EDP Goals at Launch:

- Secure and private data tools for educators, students, and families

- Easy access to Common Core curriculum and instruction resources (EngageNY.org)

- Online communities for educators

- Ability for LEA's, BOCES, NYSED, or third-parties to more effectively improve and add to the system

Guiding Questions

- Can educational technology tools help support teaching and student learning?
- Can we invest in a system that provides districts and schools with more educational technology options at lower costs and allows them to improve the system to meet local needs?
- How do we improve data security and privacy protocols when districts, schools and BOCES/RICs contract with third party educational technology vendors?

Current and Past Practices

- Consistent with FERPA, New York has a statewide student database in place and provides this information to third parties as necessary to meet its program evaluation and improvement responsibilities (e.g., school report cards)

- Consistent with FERPA, districts and schools provide data to third parties to meet their instructional and organizational responsibilities
  - Student enrollment and schedules
  - Special education services
  - School lunch and transportation
  - Online learning and formative assessment

Emerging Opportunities

- Implementation of the Common Core

- inBloom shared services and standards that allow tools to be built to standard (will work "out of the box"), increasing options and lowering costs

- Statewide identity management (educators, students, families) that help standardize security protocols to ensure only the right people view the right data

- Initial RTTT funds to invest in non-proprietary and open tools that meets long-term goals

What is Cloud Storage?

Cloud storage means that data are stored on computers in shared data centers

(see http://www.ed.gov/blog/2013/04/cloudy-with-a-chance-of-data)

• "Whenever student data is being stored—whether on paper, on servers in the back room of a school building, or 'in the cloud'—security, privacy and other legal and operational issues must always be addressed.

• "It is important to note that the collocation of servers for multiple schools in a single data center is *not* the same as comingling the student information into a single database. This may be the most widely misunderstood concept about storing student data in the cloud."
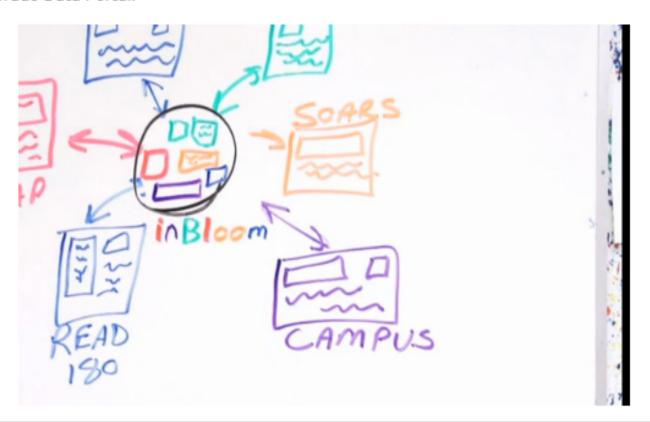
What is Cloud Storage? (cont'd)

- Cloud computers are no less secure than an individual computer connected to the internet

- Best-in-class cloud storage is likely more secure than data stored on student, teacher, school, or district computers with fewer resources for privacy protection

- EDP requires that all cloud storage comply with the federal FedRAMP security standards

- In addition, all inBloom data are **<u>encrypted</u>**, both at rest and in transfer

Example from the Jefferson County Public Schools in Colorado

http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/data/edp.html

Watch the video below to see an example of how Jefferson County schools will use the Colorado Data Portal.

Data Privacy and Security

http://usny.nysed.gov/rttt/data/edp-privacy-parent-faq.html

- Data security and privacy is a primary goal
- States/districts retain ownership of all data
- Data are never re-disclosed to a third-party, including vendors, without State/LEA approval
- Federal and state security protections, including FERPA
- Local and State data stored through inBloom are encrypted and separate from other states and districts (no national database)