The Value of Data
Why Data Matter to Everyone with a Stake in Education

Parents: “Is my child on track to graduate college and career ready?”

Teachers: “How do I know if my students are learning the material? How can I improve my teaching?”

School/district administrator: “Are more of our students prepared for college and careers than last year?”

Policymakers: “Are the state’s colleges and universities producing enough graduates with the right degrees or skillsets to meet the workforce needs of the state’s employers?”

The public: “How are the schools in my community and my state performing?”
Data Matters: A Case Study in **Chicago**

- Students who end their 9th grade year on track are four times more likely to earn a diploma than those who fall off-track.
- The district's freshman on-track rate rose from 57 percent in 2007 to 84 percent in 2013.
- **The graduation rate in Chicago has climbed from 47 percent in 1999 to 69 percent in 2014, and the district projects an 84 percent graduation rate for the class of 2018.**
- The real turning point came in 2008 with an accountability system and regular delivery of real-time, easy-to-use data reports. The information on attendance and grades on assignments helped teachers flag students early who were having difficulty.
Education Data Collection & Use
### Student Education Data Collected by States

#### 10 Essential Elements

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Element</th>
<th>Description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 1</td>
<td>Statewide student identifier</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 2</td>
<td>Student-level enrollment data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 3</td>
<td>Student-level test data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 4</td>
<td>Information on untested students</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 5</td>
<td>Statewide teacher identifier with a teacher-student match</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 6</td>
<td>Student-level course completion (transcript) data</td>
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<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 7</td>
<td>Student-level SAT, ACT, and Advanced Placement exam data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 8</td>
<td>Student-level graduation and dropout data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 9</td>
<td>Ability to match student-level P–12 and higher education data</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ELEMENT 10</td>
<td>State data audit system</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Harnessing the Power of Data
The Privacy Conversation
Landscape of Privacy Concerns

- The scope and type of student data schools collect
- Who is collecting and accessing student data/education records
- 3rd party service providers
- Common Core and Assessment Consortia
- Use of data collected by ed technology vendors
- The cloud
The Parent Voice

Stephanie Simon, Reuters, March 3, 2013

K-12 student database jazzes tech startups, spooks parents

- "This is going to be a huge win for us," said Jeffrey Olen, a product manager at CompassLearning, which sells education software.
- “The new database "is a godsend for us," said Jason Lange, the chief executive of BloomBoard. "It allows us to collect more data faster, quicker and cheaper."
- "Once this information gets out there, it's going to be abused. There's no doubt in my mind," said Jason France, a father of two in Louisiana.

EPIC encourages states to adopt a Parent Bill of Rights; New York legislates, spring 2014.
Taking the Pulse of the Media

Privacy News Sentiment 2014

- Negative
- Neutral
- Positive
Addressing Privacy Concerns
A Journey Through Time

1974 FERPA

1998 COPPA
- 1st round of SLDS grants
- New FERPA regulations
- New FERPA regulations
- 47 states, DC & PR have SLDS grants

2005

2008

2011

2012

2013 Privacy Makes Headlines

@EdDataCampaign #eddata
Barriers to Addressing Privacy Concerns

Lack of communication with parents and the public around the value of data and the systems in place to protect privacy.

Information needs and technology are evolving faster than our state policies.

*We* are not well-versed in talking (i.e., too much legal jargon) about privacy, security, and confidentiality.

Lack of understanding how to address the personal nature of privacy and build trust.
Legislative Activity in the States: 2013

1 bill passed related to student data privacy in 1 state
Legislative Activity in the States: 2014

110 bills related to student data privacy in 36 states
The State Role

» Provide **transparency** to ensure parents understand the “who, what, where, how” of data collection/use

» Deliver **services** to demonstrate the value of data: trust is based on relationship and services are the key (e.g., student data backpacks)

» Shift the **culture** around data use by communicating that data is used for continuous improvement; not just accountability/compliance

» Support your **districts** with resources, model policies, tech assistance, guidance, training

» Establish 21st century privacy/security **policies** that don’t unnecessarily prohibit data from being used in support of student achievement.
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