PERSONALLY IDENTIFIABLE INFORMATION (PII)

Education Law Section 2-d and Part 121 of the Commissioner’s Regulations outline requirements for educational agencies and their third-party contractors to strengthen data privacy and security in order to protect student and annual professional performance review personally identifiable information.

REQUIREMENTS FOR NYS EDUCATIONAL AGENCIES

PROTECTED DATA

PROTECTED STUDENT DATA

The term “student” refers to any person attending or seeking to enroll in an educational agency, and the term “personally identifiable information” ("PII") uses the definition provided in FERPA. The term PII includes, but is not limited to:

- Student Name
- Parent Names
- Student ID Num
- Student Email
- Student Address
- Student Photos
- Video of Students
- Student Birthdate
- Student Medical Information
- Special Education Information
- Other indirect identifiers
- Information that, alone or in combination, would allow a reasonable person to identify the student

TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL DATA

Personally identifiable information from the records of an educational agency relating to the annual professional performance reviews of classroom teachers or principals that is confidential and not subject to release under the provisions of Education Law §3012-c and §3012-d is subject to Education Law 2-d.

ED LAW 2-D AND DIRECTORY INFORMATION

THIRD-PARTY CONTRACTORS

All FERPA “directory information” continues to be PII under Ed Law 2-d. As a result, agencies can not disclose PII that has been designated as directory information to third-party contractors without an Education Law 2-d compliant agreement.

NEWSLETTERS AND SOCIAL MEDIA

If a newsletter is composed and printed in-house or by a BOCES, there is no sharing with a contractor and Ed Law 2-d does not apply. Please note, FERPA would still apply. PII might be allowed in communications based on a “directory information” or “school official” analysis. If a newsletter is printed by an outside vendor, or, composed on and/or distributed over the Internet in such a manner that an outside vendor receives the student data, then Ed Law 2-d applies and a compliant third-party contract is needed.