

Schroeder, Chris N.

Subject: RE: Bismarck Public Schools in receipt of a vendor notification of a data security incident

From: Tanna Kincaid <tanna_kincaid@bismarckschools.org>
Sent: Monday, August 12, 2019 7:25 AM
To: -Info-Attorney General <ndag@nd.gov>
Cc: Tanna Kincaid <tanna_kincaid@bismarckschools.org>
Subject: Bismarck Public Schools in receipt of a vendor notification of a data security incident

Dear AG Representative,

This email is to notify the ND Attorney General's office of a data security incident in accordance with 51-30, stating, "In addition, any person that experiences a breach of the security system as provided in this section shall disclose to the attorney general by mail or electronic mail any breach of the security system which exceeds two hundred fifty individuals."

Bismarck Public School District has received a letter regarding a data incident affecting the Aimsweb 1.0 assessment platform used in the district up through last school year. Aimsweb is owned by the Pearson Clinical Assessment company. This was a nationwide breach, occurring with the vendor (not BPS) and affected more than 13,000 schools and universities. Pearson has indicated that there is no evidence that any data has been misused. The specific student data in the file, as provided by Pearson, included first name, last name, and date of birth. The number of students on the list provided to Bismarck Public Schools was over 250. According to Pearson, no grade or assessment information was affected in this incident, and the Aimsweb 1.0 platform does not contain Social Security numbers, credit card data or other financial information. Employee data that was part of the compromise consisting of first name, last name, and district email address.

We have included a letter from the Pearson educational company that has further detail -<https://bit.ly/2GMFn6v>. As they write in their letter, Pearson is offering complimentary credit monitoring services from Experian for affected individuals. While they do not have any evidence that the information was misused, they are providing this option for those who wish to enroll as a precautionary measure. Bismarck Public Schools has taken or plans to take the following actions in notifying impacted individuals or families as expediently as possible.

- Notify our School Board
- Notify the Attorney General's Office
- Finalize Action Plan for the district
- Preparing messaging to staff and families
- Post and Send Messaging

Please contact me with any questions or necessary next steps.

Sincerely,
Tanna Kincaid

Tanna M. Kincaid, Ph.D.
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