State Education Agency - Data Interoperability

Data is a powerful tool to empower educators, researchers, parents, schools, and students. At the core of interoperability\(^1\) is a focus on optimally informed instruction and a student-centered learning experience unlocked by insights that educators can glean from securely connecting student data. Educational landscapes are changing, approaches to instruction are evolving, and infrastructure is adapting to meet technological and instructional demands to advance student success.

Call to Action Statement

A commitment to increasing secure access to data requires collaboration with districts, schools, educators, families, students, industry, and interdisciplinary experts in curriculum, assessment, and technology to optimize practices and champion interoperability to advance K-12 educational impact.

**Action 1. Encourage Best Practices, Share Resources, and Educate Stakeholders on Interoperability.** Maximizing secure, equitable access and availability to data by advocating for and educating stakeholders broadly to champion secure data access and data interoperability to inform instructional decisions, empower and engage educators and parents, and improve student learning outcomes.

**Action 2. Enable Collaboration Across the K-12 Educational Agency Ecosystem.** Engaging with leaders across agency and state departments in the planning process to maintain a flexible interoperability implementation plan inclusive of leaders from a variety of disciplines, including curriculum, assessment, technology, finance, special services, and professional learning.

**Action 3. Establish a Data Governance Structure.** Establishing and maintaining a data governance structure that prioritizes interoperability and privacy best practices within the state department of education and with external partners such as other state agencies.

**Action 4. Collaborate with Districts and Schools to Support the Implementation of Interoperable Data Systems and Applications.** Supporting districts and schools in building and maintaining an interoperable data infrastructure for data which is maintained and shared with the state education agency.

**Action 5. Advocate for the Implementation Process of Interoperable Data Infrastructure with Vendors.** Communicating the commitment to interoperability clearly with vendors and enabling them with the information and time needed to apply technical changes.

**Action 6. Practice, Implement, and Support Districts with Best Privacy Practices.** Implementing privacy best practices and supporting districts to communicate those practices to schools, parents, and teachers.

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\(^1\) interoperability: the seamless, secure, and controlled exchange of data between applications