

Common Core Implementation Reform Act
and
Parents' Bill of Rights

As part of a new set of State laws passed in March 2014, school districts are required to take additional steps, beyond those long required by the federal, Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), to safeguard the confidentiality of personally identifiable information about students.

Among the new legal requirements is a provision that requires a "Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security" to be: 1) posted on school district's website, and 2) included with every contract that the school district enters into with a third party contractor, whereby the contractor receives student data (and/or certain data about teachers and/or principals).

State and federal laws protect the confidentiality of personally identifiable information, and safeguards associated with industry standards and best practices, including but not limited to, encryption, firewalls, and password protection, must be in place when data is stored or transferred. Towards this end, the District has implemented the following safeguards to protect personally identifiable information about students, which is stored or transferred by the District, against unauthorized disclosure.

- All databases that have student information are protected by a secure password and login. Logins are monitored, and passwords are kept up-to-date.
- The William Floyd School District uses cisco firewalls and other security appliances with the latest codes to protect against external intrusions.

The new law requires the Commissioner of Education to appoint a Chief Privacy Officer, and, in consultation with the Chief Privacy Officer, develop regulations which establish procedures for districts to follow to implement the new law.

As of this date, neither of these two requirements has been met. Until this is completed, we will post State Education Department information on the new law in a question & answer format at <http://www.p12.nysed.gov/docs/parents-bill-of-rights.pdf> . When further guidance is provided to our district, we will update our information here.