



Kenton County School District | It's about ALL kids

THE KENTON COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

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Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent of Schools

Notice of Data Breach

The Kenton County School District (KCS D) is writing to alert you of the possibility of a data breach event impacting a student in your household's personal information and to explain the steps we have taken to protect against identity theft or abuse of the information.

What happened?

On December 4, 2024, KCS D discovered activity in our email computer system that happened without our permission. We quickly took steps to stop that activity. We began investigating right away and contacted appropriate state agencies, including law enforcement. We also immediately blocked access from the unauthorized user to KCS D's email system to protect our students, staff, and teachers.

We determined an unauthorized user was able to see and potentially copy some data in our email computer system from two email accounts involving 38 students. This happened between November 27, 2024 and November 29, 2024. We completed a thorough review of the data impacted and have concluded our findings.

What information was involved?

We communicated to our staff and teachers about this event on December 4, 2024. Starting on December 5, 2024, we began notifying our impacted staff and teachers about what data may have been seen and taken. The data that may have been seen and taken includes contact information (such as name, address, date of birth, phone number, student information system (SIS) number and email), Medicaid related information, and information related to Special Education services delivered by KCS D. There is NO evidence that financial related information was included. As a reminder, KCS D does not use SSN as a student identification number and no longer collects that information.

The data that may have been seen and taken was not the same for everyone. Some of this data may be more directory level information (name, address, date of birth, phone number, and email) and some could include medical information related to Special Education services delivered by KCS D. Out of an abundance of caution, we are notifying anyone that we identified that could be impacted. We encourage your family to remain vigilant by periodically checking your student's school related accounts for suspicious activity.

Why did this happen?

An unauthorized user accessed two accounts in our email computer system without our permission through an elaborate phishing attack.

What is KCS D doing?

We investigated, notified proper state agencies including law enforcement, and took measures to prevent this sort of access to our computer systems in the future. We are also strengthening our computer systems with enhanced cyber focused structures and systems. Additionally, this was an opportunity to refresh our students, staff, and teachers about being vigilant and alert when using any computer systems. We do not want this to happen again and will continue to implement measures to mitigate future risk.

What if I have a question?

If you have questions or concerns, please contact the KCS D Technology team at 859.957.2612, Monday through Friday, 8 am to 4 pm EST. We apologize this event has occurred and will continue to partner with the Kentucky Department of Education to fight the increasingly sophisticated data attacks by unauthorized users.

On the reverse side of this letter, we have included additional information you can take to minimize potential harm.

Kenton County Board of Education

"The Kenton County Board of Education provides *Equal Education & Employment Opportunities.*"

Additional Information

Though we do not believe student financial or credit data will be impacted by the scope of this data breach and this notification is a requirement of law, it is worth noting your consumer right to check your credit report for suspicious or fraudulent activity.

Monitor Your Accounts:

You may obtain a free copy of your credit report online at www.annualcreditreport.com, by calling toll-free 1-877-322-8228, or by mailing an Annual Credit Report Request Form (available at www.annualcreditreport.com) to Annual Credit Report Request Service, P.O. Box 105281, Atlanta, GA, 30348-5281. You may also purchase a copy of your credit report by contacting one or more of the three national credit reporting agencies listed below.

Equifax®

P.O. Box 740241
Atlanta, GA 30374-0241
1-800-685-1111
www.equifax.com

Experian

P.O. Box 9701
Allen, TX 75013-9701
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com

TransUnion®

P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19016-1000
1-800-888-4213
www.transunion.com

When you receive your credit reports, review them carefully. Look for accounts or creditor inquiries that you did not initiate or do not recognize. Look for information, such as home address and Social Security number, that is not accurate. If you see anything you do not understand, call the credit reporting agency at the telephone number on the report.

Federal Trade Commission:

You can further educate yourself regarding identity theft and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting your state Attorney General or the Federal Trade Commission. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should be reported to law enforcement, your Attorney General, and the FTC.

The Federal Trade Commission

600 Pennsylvania Avenue
NW Washington, DC 20580
1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438- 4338)
www.ftc.gov/idtheft

Kentucky Attorney General:

Office of Consumer Protection

1024 Capital Center Drive, Suite 200
Frankfort, Kentucky 40601
Phone: (502) 696-5389

Data Breach Hotline: (855) 813-6508 (toll free)

Identity Theft Hotline: (877) 438-4338

<https://www.ag.ky.gov/Resources/Consumer-Resources/Consumers/Pages/Identity-Theft.aspx>