



TECHNOLOGY & DATA PRIVACY ADVISORY
COMMITTEE (TDPAC)

Thursday, February 27 - 6:00–7:30 pm

Ed Center – Conf. Room 4E

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

Strikethrough indicates NOT in attendance

Eliza Behrerkapit	Jason Cook	Susanne Cornado
Adam Greer	Jen Jonson	Leah Lindblom
Jason Livingston	Erin Norton	Dan Rohner
Phil Romig III	Keel Ross	Alison Stafford
Emily Sullivan	Byron Thornburgh	Michael Wright
Jill Ibeck	Patrick Dean	Mary Parker
Jeremy Felker	Sean McDermid	Carol Eaton
Hilary Young	Floy Jaffares	Brett Adams
Kevin Hahn	Trace Faust	

Guests: Jeff Pierson, Madalena DeAndrea

• **Start of Meeting:**

- The meeting opened with an acknowledgment of the two remaining meetings for the year.
- Gratitude was expressed to the special guests and President Mary Parker for their attendance.
- The goal was to conclude the meeting by 7:30 PM.
- The agenda included TDPAC process oversight, an engagement with TNTP, a Gaggle safety audit, a Visitor Management Volunteer System discussion, Jeffco Purchase Network and Student Usage feedback, and an AI information update.

• **TDPAC Process Oversight:**

- A recap of the TDPAC process was provided, highlighting progress with green check marks indicating completed steps.
- The committee charter approval had moved to the executive review stage.
- The February State of the Data meeting was scheduled, with the Academic Leadership Team (ALT) as the next step.
- Alation, the data governance tool, was discussed, emphasizing its role in metadata management.

- Alation is installed and being configured to track data governance decisions and classify data.
 - The data governance process has been recently tested with the TNTP engagement.
- **Committee Charter and Data Domains:**
 - The committee charter utilizes a pooled approach, ensuring the right people are involved for specific data governance issues.
 - A voting process is in place for activated members, excluding IT personnel who serve as guides.
 - The initial data domains of focus are student, employee, financial, operational, facilities, and family/community.
 - The TNTP engagement primarily focuses on the student data domain.
 - TNTP is an international nonprofit organization, that also has local involvement.
- **TNTP Engagement and Data Governance:**
 - Floy brought the TNTP contract to the data governance team, recognizing it required their review.
 - This highlighted the value of data governance in ensuring the safe and ethical use of data.
 - Data governance is defined as a mechanism for gathering knowledgeable individuals to provide recommendations on data usage.
 - Clarification was provided that data governance is not work intake or project management.
 - The TNTP request was initially treated as work intake, revealing the need for clearer distinctions.
- **Data Governance Roles and Responsibilities:**
 - Clarification was provided that data governance provides ethical and safe data use recommendations, not project management or legal counsel.
 - Data governance recommendations are not hard stops, and data owners can choose to proceed differently.
 - Trustees act on behalf of data owners, making decisions and elevating data governance recommendations.
 - Ultimate decision-making authority rests with data owners.
 - Lessons learned from the TNTP process were discussed.
- **Work Intake and Process Improvements:**
 - The district utilizes SaFe (Scaled Agile Framework) for IT work intake and prioritization.
 - A strategy office manages overall work intake, but the TNTP request bypassed existing processes.
 - Floy from purchasing identified the data request within the contract, and brought it to the data governance team.
 - An established software vetting process exists, with a threshold for self-vetting.
 - The process is being matured to address evolving software and data privacy concerns.

- **Data Governance Decision Overrides and Reporting:**

- If a data owner overrides a data governance recommendation, it will be logged in the data governance tool.
- Reporting such overrides to the board is a potential consideration.
- President Parker requested that the topic of reporting to the board be brought to a future meeting to understand what the board would like to see.

- **TNTP's Data Usage and Project Details:**

- TNTP proposed a durable skills opportunity assessment, offering significant work at a discounted rate, with the understanding that access to student performance data would be provided.
- Floy initiated the data governance process, leading to two interactive sessions involving student data stakeholders and legal counsel.
- Initially, concerns arose about using student data as "cache" to pay for services.
- TNTP clarified their intent to build and train a model using metadata, not student data, and to destroy Jeffco data post-engagement.
- Data governance approved the project with recommendations for data handling and destruction.
- The project required additional internal project support.

- **TNTP's Analysis and Durable Skills:**

- TNTP is analyzing student data to understand how durable skills are built and persist based on curriculum and teaching outcomes.
- This aligns with strategic initiatives like High School Reimagined and Magic of Middle School.
- Durable skills are skills students can use in their post-secondary lives, such as effective communication.

- **Value Assessment and Data Security:**

- It was clarified that Jeffco is not "trading" data but allowing its use to train TNTP's model, which will generate value for students and educators. TNTP will not retain any personally identifiable information (PII), and all data will be destroyed post-engagement.
- Questions arose regarding whether an internal team is responsible for evaluating the effectiveness of TNTP's services and ensuring value.
- Project sponsors exist for the strategic initiatives that TNTP is working with.
- Information about TNTP's work and durable skills was shared.

- **TNTP Project Timeline and Data Retention:**

- The TNTP project is estimated to take one to two years.
- TNTP will retain the trained model, but not the raw data.
- Concerns were raised about the implications of TNTP retaining the trained model, as it effectively contains the data.

- The meeting recording was noted, and the questions were to be extracted and addressed by the relevant stakeholders.
- **TNTP's Pilot Program and District Participation:**
 - Other districts are participating in TNTP's pilot program.
 - The involvement of other districts was discussed during conversations with TNTP.
 - Collaboration with other districts was also discussed.
- **Project Sponsorship and Data Valuation:**
 - The TNTP project is sponsored by a strategy group, likely involving multiple sponsors.
 - The valuation of data was discussed, highlighting its increasing importance and potential for misuse.
 - The team reiterated that our purchasing and software vetting process includes steps that adequately address data security and value.
 - It was suggested that the contracts group should be trained on the value of data.
 - The district's default data setting is that data is only given when it is needed to do a job, and then it must be destroyed.
- **Gaggle Safety Audit:**
 - A free safety audit from Gaggle was presented, involving a \$0.00 contract that had been reviewed by purchasing, contracting, and legal.
 - The audit would involve an API-based connection to Jeffco's Google Workspace, analyzing data from 60,000-70,000 student accounts over the past 45 days.
 - Gaggle's model would identify potentially concerning information, such as self-harm concerns or threats of violence.
 - Emergency contacts would be notified when necessary.
 - The audit would look for questionable content.
 - The district's existing security measures are still in place.
- **Gaggle's LLM and Data Analysis:**
 - Gaggle utilizes a large language model (LLM) to process Jeffco's student data and identify questionable content and potential student situations.
 - The goal is to share results with school administrators to address student struggles and enhance safety.
 - A sample safety audit report is available for review.
 - Next steps include signing the contract, conducting the audit, and sharing the results with Jeffco.
- **Potential Solutions and Considerations:**
 - Jeffco will consider potential solutions based on the audit findings, including Gaggle's offerings or leveraging existing tools like Securely.
 - Discussions will focus on balancing student safety and privacy.

- Jeffco has a robust Google Vault for incident records, but proactive alerting is a consideration.
 - The district will need to ensure adequate resources for triaging and handling alerts.
- **Scope of Gaggle's Monitoring:**
 - Gaggle's monitoring could potentially include student activity on social media accounts created with Jeffco credentials.
 - The \$0.00 contract allows Gaggle to demonstrate its value, potentially leading to a paid service.
 - Gaggle has a strong interest in Jeffco and has offered the audit to provide additional insights into student safety.
- **Addressing Gray Areas and Pilot Concerns:**
 - Concerns were raised about how Jeffco will handle gray areas uncovered during the pilot.
 - The safety and security team is experienced in dealing with gray areas and similar data from Safe to Tell.
 - The team will use existing processes to analyze and address the data, involving multiple stakeholders as needed.
 - The Gaggle data is expected to be similar to Safe to Tell data.
 - It was confirmed that the current plan is to use the existing process to handle the information that Gaggle provides.
- **Threat Assessment and Student Safety:**
 - Jeffco has a robust threat assessment process to evaluate and respond to threats, considering the context and severity.
 - The process helps distinguish between different levels of threats, such as those from younger children versus older students with access to weapons.
 - Teachers are trained to navigate difficult situations, such as interpreting student writing that may contain violent themes.
 - Concerns were raised about over-reliance on AI-generated information, as people may tend to over-trust AI outputs.
 - Jeffco has confidence in its Google Vault system for verifying information.
 - The district will continue to believe reports of threats, but will also conduct investigations to verify them.
- **Measuring the Success of the Gaggle Pilot:**
 - The success of the Gaggle pilot will be measured by its ability to identify gaps in existing safety measures.
 - Jeffco already uses tools like Hazel Health, Safe to Tell, and Securely, but the pilot may reveal additional areas for improvement.
 - The goal is to enhance student safety, even if it means implementing more proactive monitoring.

- The pilot will assess whether current systems adequately monitor student activity at home when logged into school accounts.
 - The goal is to make children safer.
- **Visitor Management and Background Checks:**
 - The system aims to improve consistency in tracking who is in school buildings and to enhance safety.
 - Two companies are being vetted, with a recommendation to be finalized soon.
 - The system will scan visitor IDs against the sexual offender registry and other databases.
 - It will also allow for flagging individuals who are trespassed from district properties.
- **Visitor Management System Functionality:**
 - Background checks will be conducted for volunteers, with periodic re-checks.
 - The frequency of background checks will be determined by district policy, considering cost and risk factors.
 - The system will allow for flagging individuals who are trespassed from district properties.
- **Culture of Security and Badge Enforcement:**
 - Jeffco emphasizes a culture of security, encouraging staff and students to wear ID badges.
 - Staff are trained to politely challenge individuals who are not wearing badges.
 - The district recognizes that human error is a potential weakness in security.
 - The district is working to create a culture where staff feel comfortable to challenge people without badges.
 - The district has seen an improvement in compliance with badge wearing.
 - Parent behavior, such as bypassing security protocols, is a concern.
 - Efforts have been made to limit access points and improve security.
 - Increased awareness and training have led to improvements in staff adherence to safety protocols.
 - Suggestions were made for incorporating physical security policies into the student registration process to increase parental awareness.
- **AI Update and Jeffco Purchase Network:**
 - The AI update will be provided asynchronously.
 - The discussion shifted to the Jeffco Purchase Network and student usage, specifically regarding games.
 - The district is considering moving from a blocklist to an allowlist for games to better manage student distractions.
 - The current system blocks some games, and teachers can block others.
- **Challenges of Game Filtering :**
 - Determining which games are appropriate for educational use is challenging.
 - Games like Halo are clearly inappropriate, while others, like vocabulary games or Minecraft, have educational potential.

- Minecraft, for example, can be used for creative learning and engagement, but can also be a distraction.
 - The district is looking for input on how to balance educational value with potential distractions.
- **Device Usage and Equity:**
 - Questions arose regarding whether district-provided devices should be for educational use only.
 - Equity concerns were raised, as limiting device usage outside of school hours could disadvantage some students.
 - The district is seeking input on how to balance educational use with potential free-time usage.
 - The time in which the games are being played is an important factor to consider.
- **Defining Educational Value:**
 - The discussion focused on defining "educational value" in the context of games on district-provided Chromebooks.
 - The district is using Palo Alto Networks for URL filtering and traffic classification.
 - The filtering applies to devices on the Jeffco network, with Securly used for devices off-network.
 - DNS filtering was suggested as a potential technique.
- **Grade-Level Considerations and Parental Control:**
 - The need for grade-level-specific filtering was acknowledged.
 - Some participants expressed a preference for a conservative approach, allowing parents to make decisions about games at home.
 - Securly Home and other network controls were mentioned as options for parents.
 - The question of whether to allow games like Halo on school devices was raised.
- **Equity and Durable Skills:**
 - The concept of equity was discussed, including access to technology and internet.
 - Concerns were raised about students being bullied if they lack access to certain games.
 - The potential for games to teach durable skills, such as critical thinking and planning, was acknowledged.
 - The importance of parental choice in determining appropriate games was emphasized.
- **Balancing Educational Use and Parental Concerns:**
 - The challenge of balancing educational use with parental concerns about screen time was highlighted.
 - A preference for students to engage in non-screen activities was expressed.
 - The district's one-to-one initiative aimed to provide screen access to students without it at home.

- The importance of teaching children to navigate technology responsibly was also discussed.
- **Differing Opinions on Game Access:**
 - Differing opinions were expressed regarding the appropriateness of allowing certain games, such as Halo, on school devices.
 - Concerns were raised about exposing younger students to potentially violent content.
 - The existence of esports programs in high schools was mentioned, highlighting the potential for games to provide skills for future opportunities.
 - The idea of blocking all games and allowing exceptions was discussed.
- **Complexity and Community Input:**
 - The complexity of the issue was acknowledged, and the need for further discussion and input was emphasized.
 - The importance of gathering input from a broad range of stakeholders, including teachers and parents, was highlighted.
 - The district is committed to seeking out both loud and quiet voices in the community.
 - The meeting was adjourned, with a promise to follow up with answers to questions and updates on upcoming agendas.

Next Meeting: May 22, 2025