

Points of Concern For Data Collection In Wyoming Education

Point 1: Personal Identifiable Information leaving district to the state level

The following was *copied and pasted* from the sited website and is the current list of data being collected at the district level and *submitted to the state*:

SPRING 2013 WDE684 GUIDEBOOK

Student File

The first file is the Student File. The purpose of this file is to submit demographic information for each student. It contains 39 elements.

• WISERID	• StudentLastName	• StudentFirstName
• StudentMiddleName	• StudentGradeLevel	• StudentDateOfBirth
• StudentGender	• SchoolID	• DistrictID
• StudentNameSuffix	• HispanicEthnicity	• AsianRace
• BlackRace	• IndianRace	• PacificIslanderRace
• WhiteRace	• StudentIDEA	• StudentELL
• StudentELLMonitoring	• StudentSection504	• StudentTitle1
• StudentMigrant	• StudentImmigrant	• CountryOfBirth
• NumberOfEducationyearsInUS	• StudentHomeless	• HomelessNighttimeResidence
• StudentGiftedTalented	• StudentLunch	• HomeLanguage
• StudentEntryDate	• StudentConcurrentEnrollment	• StudentHomeSchooled
• StudentNationalScholarship	• StudentStateScholarship	• StudentExitDate
• StudentExitDate		

<http://portals.edu.wyoming.gov/WISE/sf-docs/2012-data-elements/wde684-data-elements---jun>

Also, the following guidebook explains the data collection to the districts:

<http://portals.edu.wyoming.gov/WISE/sf-docs/spring-2013/wde684-june-end-of-year-2012-2013-data-collection-guidebook-v1p1.pdf?sfvrsn=9>

Point 2: Wyoming Department of Education has stated parents do not have the right to opt their children out of data collection

In correspondence with the Data Collection and Reporting Supervisor at the WDE, it has been stated that parents may not opt their child(ren) out of data collection mandated by the state. We are currently looking into state statutes that reveal the law behind this statement.

Point 3: The Development of the SLDS (P20) in Wyoming

Wyoming is currently working on the development of a SLDS (state longitudinal data system) and that the current data elements collected on students will likely change once this is in place, and could increase. Please use the following link to view the explanation of the “Wyoming P20 Statewide Education Longitudinal Data System” and the flow chart showing the system’s placing data from several state agencies into one pool and made available to many different groups.

<http://legisweb.state.wy.us/InterimCommittee/2012/JECCIO.pdf>

Point 4: The FERPA regulations protecting student data have recently been loosened on who can access information on students.

The 2012 changes to the FERPA regulations can be found at this link:

<http://www2.ed.gov/policy/gen/guid/fpco/pdf/parentoverview.pdf>

The full federal register that states the changes can be found here:

<http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2011-12-02/pdf/2011-30683.pdf>

Please note that the Electronic Privacy Information Center is currently in a lawsuit against the US Department of Education for the FERPA changes. If you would like to learn more about the concerns regarding these changes you can read about them at:

<http://epic.org/apa/ferpa/default.html>

Point 5: The Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium has agreed to the US Department of Education's access to student data

Wyoming has recently signed into a Memorandum of Understanding with the SBAC as a "governing state." The agreement that Wyoming now has with the SBAC ties Wyoming to the SBAC's agreement with the US Department of Education. The agreement that SBAC has with the US Department of Education (ED) states:

Item 6 on page 10 reads:

6) The Grantee must provide timely and complete access to any and all data collected at the State level to ED or its designated program monitors, technical assistance providers, or researcher partners, and to GAO, and the auditors conducting the audit required by 34 CFR section 80.26.