

# Data Tracking in Wyoming

How the state of Wyoming is expanding the data collection and storage of Wyoming citizens and students

# An Explanation of the System

- What is a State Longitudinal Data System  
(otherwise known as SLDS or P-20)
  - A network of communication channels that track and store information on citizens from preschool through the workforce
- What is the purpose of an SLDS?
  - “...to capture, analyze, and use student data from preschool to high school, college, and the workforce.”  
(<http://www2.ed.gov/programs/slds/factsheet.html>)

# The SLDS/P20 In The Works in Wyoming

**DATE:** October 30, 2012

**TO:** HONORABLE HANK COE  
HONORABLE MATT TEETERS

**FROM:** Flint Waters, State Chief Information Officer

**SUBJECT:** Education Accountability Data Systems

**CC:** Office of the Governor

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY:**

At the request of the chairs of the Joint Appropriations and Education Committees, the Department of Enterprise Technology Services (ETS) is providing updates on the progress related to the education accountability data systems: the Wyoming P-20 Statewide Education Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) and the Educator Credentialing, Assignment Validation and Reporting System. ETS staff have continued to move forward with fulfilling the statutory requirements.

# Plan and Purpose

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## **EDUCATION ACCOUNTABILITY DATA SYSTEMS:**

### Section 326. Education Accountability Data Systems

*Providing statewide capability to share and access educational information between all education data participants within the state*

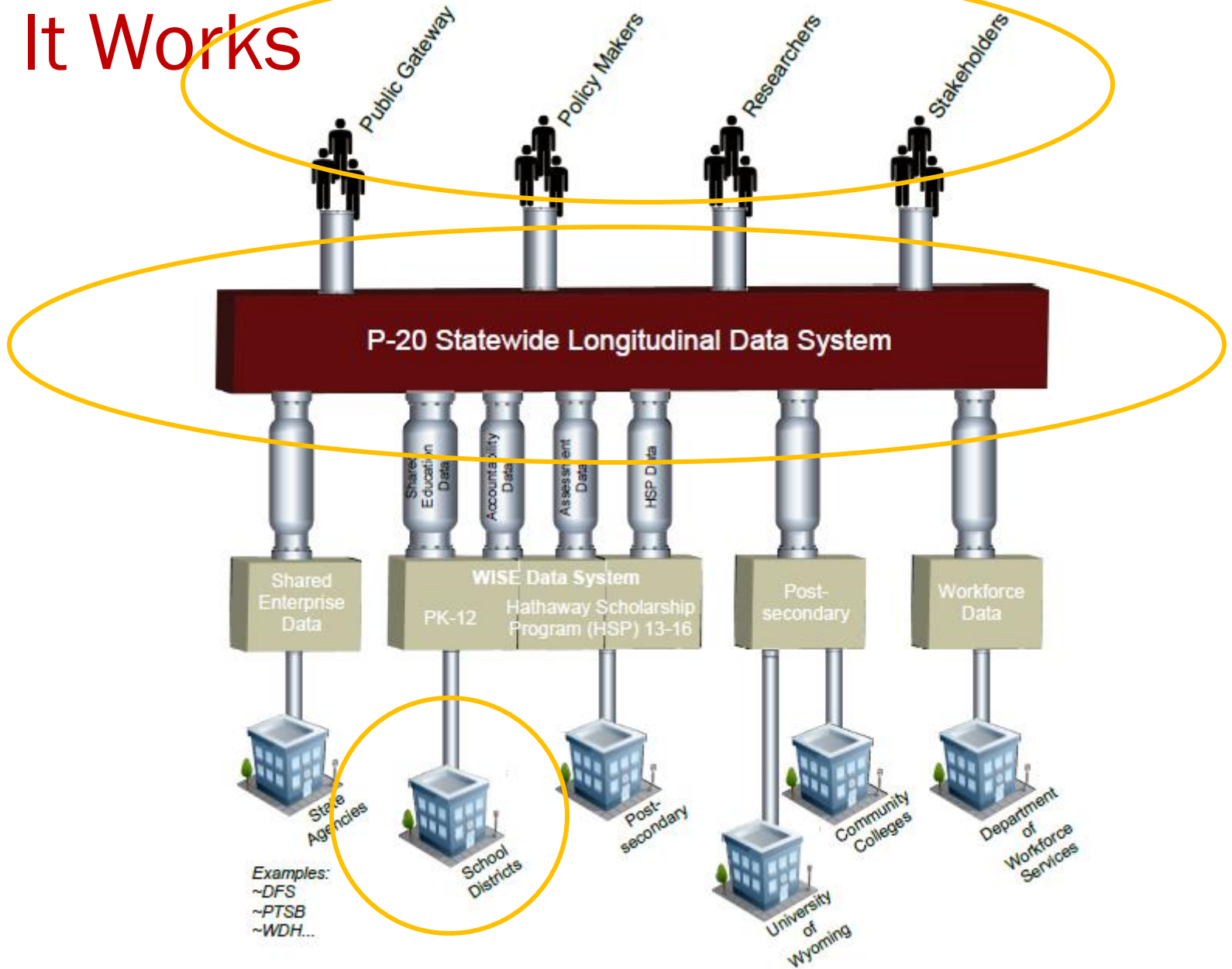
#### Wyoming P-20 Statewide Education Longitudinal Data System

The purpose of the Wyoming P-20 SLDS is to establish the data cohesion and integration across the multiple agency systems to allow a system to be developed to store high-quality longitudinal data that provides accurate information on how individual students, or aggregates of students, are doing over time, from pre-kindergarten through 12th grade and into post-secondary education and careers.

This data, known as longitudinal data, can give policymakers and educators the type of information they need to assess the effects of their reform policies and programs efforts, and adjust policies and practices to improve student achievement. This data should include alternate pathways into careers including certificate programs and apprenticeships, as well as college and university attendance. The various source systems making up the comprehensive SLDS system retain their own internal data governance, source systems and data collections and only data that is shared falls under the umbrella of the SLDS.

To deliver the technical requirements of a preschool through workforce (P-20) statewide education longitudinal data system as required by the Legislature, a needs assessment is in the process of being conducted. A supplemental budget request has been submitted in the amount of \$1,350,200 to the

# How It Works



# Privacy Laws

## FERPA- Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

- Created in 1974
- Recently amended by the US Department of Education through a rules/regulations change, not by an act of congress

# Recent FERPA Changes

The changes removed limitations prohibiting educational institutions and agencies from disclosing student personally identifiable information, without first obtaining student or parental consent.

For example, the proposed FERPA regulations reinterpreted FERPA statutory terms "authorized representative," "education program," and "directory information." This reinterpretation gives non-governmental actors increased access to student personal data.

The Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) is suing the US Dept of Ed

# Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium (SBAC)

This is the federally-funded testing program that Wyoming has signed an agreement with

The agreement ties Wyoming to the SBAC's agreement with the US Department of Education



# Wyoming's agreement with SBAC



Ties Wyoming to the SBAC  
agreement with the US  
Department of Education



Giving the US Dept of Ed access  
to any and all data

Memorandum of Understanding  
SMARTER Balanced Assessment Consortium  
Race to the Top Fund Assessment Program: Comprehensive Assessment  
Systems Grant Application  
CFDA Number: 84.395B

COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT  
Between the  
U.S. DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
and the  
SMARTER BALANCED ASSESSMENT CONSORTIUM  
and the  
STATE OF WASHINGTON  
(fiscal agent)

Assessment grant period, and (c) other matters related to the Race to the Top  
Assessment grant and associated plans;

- 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

# Another Concern With Wyoming's Agreement with SBAC

## (g) Plan for Identifying Existing State Barriers

Each State agrees to identify existing barriers in State laws, statutes, regulations, or policies by noting the barrier and the plan to remove the barrier. Each State agrees to use the table below as a planning tool for identifying existing barriers. States may choose to include any known barriers in the table below at the time of signing this MOU.

Barrier	Issue/Risk of Issue (if known)	Statute, Regulation, or Policy	Governing Body with Authority to Remove Barrier	Approximate Date to Initiate Action	Target Date for Removal of Barrier	Comments

# Take Action: Advocate for...

- the state of Wyoming to adopt a Wyoming Privacy Act and a Privacy Impact Statement
- the state of Wyoming to exit the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium
- parents to have the ability to opt out of data collection on their students
- Open and transparent communication between state and local officials and citizens