



WISCONSIN LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL

SCHOOL DATA

Room 412 East
State Capitol

August 16, 2016
9:30 a.m. – 4:35 p.m.

[The following is a summary of the August 16, 2016 meeting of the Study Committee on School Data. Visit <http://www.legis.wisconsin.gov/lc> to access links to the agenda, a video recording of the meeting on the Wisconsin Eye website, and copies of documents prepared for or submitted to the committee during the meeting.]

Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Thiesfeldt called the committee to order and it was determined that a quorum was present.

COMMITTEE MEMBERS PRESENT: Rep. Jeremy Thiesfeldt, Chair; Sen. Devin LeMahieu, Vice Chair; Reps. David Murphy, and Sondy Pope; Sen. Chris Larson; and Public Members Kevin Bruggink, Sally Flaschberger, Wendy Greenfield, Nicole Hafele, Kelly Hoyland, John Humphries, Kim Kaukl, Margaret Murphy, and Ann Steenwyk.

COMMITTEE MEMBER EXCUSED: Rep. David Bowen.

COUNCIL STAFF PRESENT: Katie Bender-Olson, Senior Staff Attorney, and Brian Larson, Staff Attorney, Legislative Council Staff.

APPEARANCES: David Cagigal, Chief Information Officer, and Bill Nash, Chief Information Security Officer, Department of Administration (DOA); Jeff Pertl, Senior Policy Advisor, and Sean Cottrell, Data Governance Coordinator, Department of Public Instruction (DPI); Brennan McMahon Parton, Associate Director, State Policy and Advocacy, Data Quality Campaign (DQC); and Caitriona Fitzgerald, Chief Technology Officer and State Policy Coordinator, Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC).

Approval of the Minutes of the Committee's July 12, 2016 Meeting

Senator LeMahieu moved, seconded by Mr. Kaukl, that the minutes of the committee's July 12, 2016 meeting be approved. The motion was approved by voice vote.

Department of Administration, Division of Enterprise Technology

Members of the committee heard a presentation from David Cagigal and Bill Nash, DOA, regarding the maintenance of the data enterprise systems at DOA's 57,000 square-foot facility in Madison. These systems store and protect all state data, including student data held by DPI. The data enterprise systems are accessed by departments and agencies in the executive branch and by local governmental units located throughout the state. In their presentation and in response to questions from committee members, Mr. Cagigal and Mr. Nash explained the steps involved with protecting and securing this data, including how the data is accessed, who has access, and protocols followed to keep the information secure. They described the importance of security awareness training of employees, in order to help ensure the security of the data.

Description of Materials Distributed by DPI

Members of the committee heard a presentation from Jeff Pertl and Sean Cottrell, DPI, regarding the materials prepared by DPI at the request of the committee. DPI presented a document explaining its data collection practices and requirements in general terms, as well as a separate index of each specific data element that DPI collects, along with the source of legal authority for each data element. In response to questions from committee members, Mr. Pertl and Mr. Cottrell explained the process of using certain data elements to verify the identities of individual students in order to ensure accuracy of data required to be collected.

Presentation by Data Quality Campaign

Members of the committee heard a presentation from Brennan McMahon Parton, DQC, regarding state approaches to school data collection throughout the country. In her presentation and in response to questions from committee members, Ms. Parton provided information regarding the importance of data collection in education and gave examples of effective collection and use of student data in other states. She emphasized the importance of policies that protect the security of student data, including the creation of data governance policies, enhanced transparency, and the assignment of primary responsibility to a statewide officer in charge of school data.

Presentation by Electronic Privacy Information Center

Members of the committee heard a presentation from Caitriona Fitzgerald, EPIC, regarding student data collection and risks for student privacy. In her presentation and in response to questions from committee members, Ms. Fitzgerald provided information regarding data elements typically included in state longitudinal databases for the collection of student data, and discussed risks associated with the practice. She emphasized the importance

of data security practices, including minimizing the collection of data elements that are not essential to promote learning.

Panel Discussion by Presenters

Members of the committee were given an opportunity for an additional question and answer session with the above presenters, Mr. Cagigal, Mr. Nash, Mr. Pertl, Mr. Cottrell, Ms. Parton, and Ms. Fitzgerald. The discussion related to current DPI practices, the purposes and effectiveness of student data collection, requirements and steps taken in response to a data breach, the impact of federal law, data retention, identification of data, data collection practices of online vendors, the role of employees and local school districts in ensuring the security of data that is collected and reported at the local level, and other topics.

Discussion of Committee Assignment

Chair Thiesfeldt asked committee members to identify topics that the committee may address at its next meeting on September 14th. He noted that the Legislative Council staff would begin preparing a document laying out options for the committee to consider, to be used as a tool to move the committee toward its final recommendations. The options will be based on suggestions from committee members, as well as policies recommended in presentations to the committee.

The committee identified options for the staff to include in its summary. The Chair asked that members forward any additional options that they would like the committee to consider to the committee staff.

Plans for Future Meetings

Chair Thiesfeldt has scheduled the next meeting of the Study Committee for Wednesday, September 14.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 4:35 p.m.

BL:jal