

Update | PowerSchool Data Security Breach

May 7, 2025

On Jan. 7, 2025, PowerSchool notified the CBE and other school boards across North America that a PowerSchool system experienced a data security breach in late December 2024. The breach involved CBE staff and student information.

This week the CBE has been informed by PowerSchool that a threat actor is attempting to extort school boards using the data breached in Dec. 2024. At this time, PowerSchool has indicated that no new data has been accessed. PowerSchool has told school boards that its system is secure and they continue to actively monitor.

Please read this message from PowerSchool for more information.

We were recently informed that PowerSchool paid a ransom to secure deletion of the impacted data. As with any such incident, there was a risk that the threat actors would not honour their commitment to delete the stolen data, despite assurances provided to PowerSchool. CBE did not a pay a ransom nor did it contribute financially to any ransom payment.

Credit Monitoring and Identity Protection Available

As a reminder, PowerSchool is offering credit monitoring and identity protection for those directly impacted by the Dec. 2024 breach. Staff and students who have reached the age of majority can apply for credit monitoring services. Any students and staff whose information was involved can apply for two years of complimentary identity protection.

We strongly encourage you to visit the <u>PowerSchool Data Breach page</u> on the CBE website for how to apply.

It is important to note that parent/guardian information was not impacted and these individuals do not qualify for these services.

CBE administration has taken a number of steps to assess and contain this threat. This includes implementing enhanced cybersecurity measures to mitigate against potential cyberattacks. CBE has retained external experts in cybersecurity and an incident response team has also been established. We have reported this to law enforcement.

More information is available on the <u>PowerSchool Data Breach page</u>. We will continue to update you and the website as more details are available.