

TO: School Family

FROM: Hamblen County Department of Education (HCDOE)

SUBJECT: An Update from HCDOE on the PowerSchool Cybersecurity Incident

Dear Families of the Hamblen County community,

As we previously communicated, PowerSchool – a cloud-based software vendor used by HCDOE– recently experienced a cybersecurity incident involving unauthorized access to certain information in the PowerSchool Student Information System (SIS).

We are reaching out to share more information and next steps that we recently received directly from PowerSchool:

- **Identity Protection and Credit Monitoring Services:** PowerSchool has engaged Experian, a trusted credit reporting agency, to offer two years of complimentary identity protection services for all students and educators whose information from our PowerSchool SIS was involved. This offer will also include two years of complimentary credit monitoring services for all adult students and educators whose information was involved.
- **Notification to Individuals Involved:** Starting in the next few weeks, in collaboration with Experian, PowerSchool will provide notice to students (or their parents / guardians if the student is under 18) and educators whose information was involved, as well as a phone number to answer any questions you may have about the incident. The notice will include the identity protection and credit monitoring services offer (as applicable).
- **As soon as PowerSchool learned of the incident, they engaged cybersecurity response protocols and mobilized senior leadership and third-party cybersecurity experts to conduct a forensic investigation of the scope of the incident and to monitor for signs of information misuse. PowerSchool is not aware of any identity theft attributable to this incident.**

In the meantime, I encourage you to visit <https://www.powerschool.com/security/sis-incident/> for up-to-date information on the cybersecurity incident. We care deeply about the welfare of our Hamblen County families and will continue to do everything we can to support you. Thank you for the important role you play in our community and your shared commitment to putting our students first.

Sincerely,

Arnold W. Bunch, Jr

Superintendent. Hamblen County Schools