

Portage Area School District
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January 9, 2025

Dear Portage Area School District Community,

I am writing to inform you of a potential data security incident involving PowerSchool, a company that provides services to our district, including the management of our student information system. Protecting the privacy and security of our students' information is a top priority, and I want to share what we currently know and the steps we are taking in response.

On January 8, 2025, the district was notified by PowerSchool of a potential cybersecurity incident involving unauthorized access to certain information through one of their community-focused customer support portals, PowerSource. During their investigation it was determined that an unauthorized party gained access to certain PowerSchool SIS customer data using a compromised credential.

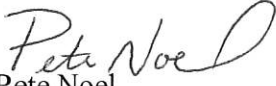
As soon as PowerSchool learned of the potential incident, they immediately engaged their cybersecurity response protocols and mobilized a cross-functional response team, including senior leadership and third-party cybersecurity experts. They have also informed law enforcement.

Importantly, PowerSchool has informed the district that this incident is contained, and they have no evidence of malware or continued unauthorized activity in the PowerSchool environment. PowerSchool is not experiencing, nor expects to experience any operational disruption and continues to provide services as normal to their customers. PowerSchool deactivated the compromised credential and restricted all access to the affected portal. Additionally, they have conducted a full password reset and further tightened password and access control for all PowerSource customer support portal accounts.

As of this point of their forensic investigation, PowerSchool has informed the Portage Area School District that our district's data was not impacted. PowerSchool expects to have a finalized forensic report by January 17, 2025. In the event that the district is notified that its data has been compromised, PASD will work collaboratively with PowerSchool to conduct a thorough notification process to all impacted individuals. Additional information regarding the PowerSchool cybersecurity incident is available on the district's website (www.portageareasd.org).

Thank you for your understanding and continued support as we work to ensure the privacy and security of our students and school community.

Sincerely,


Pete Noel

Superintendent

Patrick J. Noel
Superintendent of Schools

Jeff Vasilko
Business Administrator

Dennis McGlynn, Esquire
Solicitor