# MI SCHOOL DATA WEBSITE PRIVACY STATEMENT



# **PROTECTING EDUCATION DATA**

Quality, timely, longitudinal data has the power to inform the policies, programs, and instructional practices that can improve student outcomes.

The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) understands the value and necessity of providing education data to state and local policymakers, parents, and the citizens of Michigan.

At the same time, CEPI is committed to protecting confidential education records. Its rigorous privacy policies and procedures meet or exceed data sharing guidelines of the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Its data security protocols follow strict state of Michigan standards and best practice technology protocols.

CEPI is also committed to transparency with Michigan stakeholders about our education data collections, storage, and disclosure policies and practices.

You can find information about how CEPI protects education data on the CEPI website.

# **PRIVACY POLICY**

When you access MI School Data, we gather information in the following ways:

# Information collected automatically

When you view pages on MI School Data, some of your information is automatically collected. This may include information about how you linked to MI School Data, when you accessed the website, the searches you initiated, links you clicked on, your IP address, the type of browser and operating system you used, and the pages you requested and visited. This information is aggregated and is used to improve the website.

# Information voluntarily submitted

MI School Data (or our third party vendors and partners) may collect additional information if you voluntarily provide it (e.g., in connection with your search and reports you request). The type of information varies by transaction and may include: username and password, name, affiliated district or institution, email address, and phone number.

### **Emails from us**

If you have an account to access MI School Data via username and password, you provide us with your email address. We use your email address to send you periodic announcements. You may unsubscribe to these services by following the instructions in the email.

# **USE OF COOKIES**

MI School Data uses "cookies" to customize your browsing experience. A cookie is a small text file that is saved on your computer when you visit a website.

Session cookies allow you to move through many pages of a website quickly and easily without having to authenticate or reprocess each new area you visit. Session cookies remember the parameters of your

requested report so that additional reports are based on these parameters. Session cookies are destroyed after successful completion of a transaction, after a few minutes of inactivity, or when the browser is closed.

Persistent cookies help websites remember your information and settings when you visit them in the future. They continue to exist after a few minutes of inactivity, after the browser is closed, or after a user completes a single session. Persistent cookies generated by mischooldata.org expire within five years or until the user manually deletes them.

MI School Data uses cookies in the following ways:

- To help you to navigate the site and to produce reports with minimal interaction.
- To perform statistical analyses on website usage to understand how people are using the website and how we can improve it.

If you choose to do so, you can configure your browser to notify you when a new cookie is received. You can also view and delete existing cookies, prevent your browser from accepting new cookies, and disable cookies altogether. If you disable cookies, you can still use MI School Data, but your ability to use some areas or functions of the website may be limited.

# Personally Identifiable Information

We will only share personal information about you with others if:

- We have your consent to share the information, or
- We need to share your information to provide the product or service you have requested, or
- We are authorized to do so by law. e.g., to respond to subpoenas, court orders, legal process, or to requests pursuant to a statute requiring or permitting disclosure such as the Michigan Freedom of Information Act, MCL 15.231, et seq.

We limit access to personally identifiable information gathered through MI School Data to employees and agents who need access to perform a specific job. Security measures have been integrated into the design, implementation, and day-to-day operations of this website as part of our continuing commitment to the security of electronic content as well as the electronic transmission of information.

MI School Data uses Secure Sockets Layer (SSL) technology to encrypt and protect your personal information during internet transmissions.

# **SECURE REPORT USE POLICIES**

All secure (i.e., login required) reports provided for access and use on the www.mischooldata.org website are considered "restricted use." The data contained in these reports are supplied on the condition that only authorized representatives are able to view and use the data for auditing or evaluating a Federal or State-supported education program, which is in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA). Under FERPA, the State of Michigan is allowed to share these data without prior consent only to authorized representatives for program evaluation purposes. Data provided in a secure report are collected without an opt-out provision, thereby limiting the purposes for which it can be used and thus classified as "restricted."

In addition, Section 9 of the Richard B. Russell National School Lunch Act establishes requirements and limitations regarding the release of information about children certified for free and reduced price meals provided under the National School Lunch Program. A child's eligibility status may only be disclosed to

persons directly connected with, and who have a need to know, a child's free and reduced price meal eligibility status in order to administer and enforce Title I requirements.

Click on the following links to access copies of:

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act

Privacy Act of 1974

National School Lunch Program

#### These data must be:

- Kept secure at all times.
- Stored, and in transit, adhering to 128-bit encryption.
- Stored where only the authorized representative(s) may access the data and be protected from unauthorized access or disclosure.
- Carefully tracked, including the locations of all copies of the data.
- Used in a way that respects privacy, anonymity, and confidentiality of all concerned parties.
- Clearly marked "confidential—internal use only" for any documents containing identifying information.
- Used only in products (reports, summaries, presentations, proposals) that are FERPA-compliant and are subject to all applicable statutes and federal regulations.
- Used only by authorized representatives who have completed formal FERPA training, where applicable, either through the U.S. Department of Education or another qualified organization.
- Destroyed when no longer needed for the purposes of auditing or evaluating a Federal or Statesupported education program.

## These data cannot be:

- Used for research studies.
- Used commercially for things such as, but not limited to (1) marketing, (2) outreach, (3) surveys, or (4) anything other than education program evaluation.
- Sold or rented.

### **SECURITY POLICY**

The State of Michigan, as developer and manager of MI School Data, has taken a number of steps to safeguard the integrity of its data and prevent unauthorized access to information that is maintained in agency computer systems. These measures are designed and intended to prevent corruption of data, block unknown or unauthorized access to our systems and information, ensure the integrity of information that is transmitted between users of e-government applications and the State, and to provide reasonable protection of private information that is in our possession.

For security purposes and to make sure this service remains available to all users, MI School Data uses special software programs for monitoring and auditing network traffic to identify unauthorized attempts to upload or change information, or otherwise to cause damage to this government computer system. MI School Data also uses industry-standard software tools to control access to specific applications and services and to protect data that is transmitted electronically between users and the State. These programs help us identify someone attempting to tamper with this website.

If security monitoring reveals possible evidence of criminal activity, information pertaining to such activity may be provided to law enforcement officials.

Unauthorized attempts to upload information and/or change information on the Michigan portal or its composite web sites are strictly prohibited and are subject to prosecution under the Computer Fraud and Abuse Act of 1986 and Title 18 U.S.C. Sec. 1001 and 1030.

The information contained in this policy statement should not be construed in any way as giving business, legal, or other advice, or warranting as fail proof, the security of information provided via the Michigan portal or the web sites of individual state agencies.

# **LINKS POLICY**

Linking to MI School Data is permitted under limited conditions.

If you link to MI School Data, you must not: (1) portray any person, entity, or subject in a false or misleading light; (2) visually alter MI School Data pages being linked to; or (3) imply that the State or its vendors or partners endorse your products or services.

To link to MI School Data, use the following HTML code:

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<a href="https://www.mischooldata.org">MI School Data</a>
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You may also link to individual pages and parameterized reports on the MI School Data site. You are also permitted to use the MI School Data logo for linking purposes.

## **OUTSIDE LINKS**

We provide links to other organizations through MI School Data. The links are for informational purposes only. In providing these links, we do not endorse the content, products, services, or viewpoints of these external websites. Once you leave MI School Data and link to an external website, MI School Data terms and policies no longer apply.

# CHILDREN'S ONLINE PRIVACY PROTECTION ACT

Individuals under the age of 13 are not eligible to use services that require submission of personal information and should not submit any personal information to MI School Data. This includes submitting personal information to MI School Data as part of a user profile or personalization profile. If you are an individual under the age of 13, you may use these services only if used with your parent or legal guardian.

# **CONTACT US**

Macomb Intermediate School District (MISD) hosts a help desk at <a href="helpdesk@misd.net">helpdesk@misd.net</a> to report an issue or ask for MI School Data assistance.