

Navigating Policy Shifts and Emerging Challenges with Student Data, EdTech, and Privacy

SESSION MODERATOR:



Anna Merod

K-12 Dive

SESSION PRESENTERS



Amelia Vance

Public Interest
Privacy Center



Kristin Woelfel

Center for
Democracy and
Technology



Camila Camborda

Data Quality
Campaign



Jim Siegl

Future of
Privacy Forum

The Federal Government

- What can we expect from the federal government moving forward?
- What may happen to existing laws like FERPA, PPRA, IDEA and COPPA?
- What to expect in technical support and enforcement.

Data access

- Data collection, sharing, and research
- The Privacy Act and lawsuits
- Immigration
- Parent Rights

POLITICO

The law everyone is suddenly turning to because of DOGE

Judges are considering whether longstanding constraints on government can hold up when the government itself seems indifferent to violating them.



The leader of the so-called Department of Government Efficiency, Elon Musk, wears a shirt that says "Tech Support" as he speaks during a Cabinet meeting Feb. 26, 2025. | Jim Watson/AFP via Getty Images

Education Department launches anti-DEI portal

The information collection tool is part of the Trump administration's effort to eliminate practices for diversity, equity and inclusion.

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[Kara Arundel](#)
Senior Reporter





Schools no longer protected from immigration raids

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security lifted the practice of avoiding immigration enforcement at locations where students gather.

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Kara Arundel
Senior Reporter



Just hours after being sworn in, President Donald Trump signs executive orders in the Oval Office on Jan. 20, 2025, in Washington, D.C. Anna Moneymaker via Getty Images

Child Privacy

- Updates (or lack of) to the COPPA rule
- Federal proposals (that may impact schools)
 - COPPA 2.0
 - Kids Online Safety Act (KOSA)
 - Kids Off Social Media Act (KOSMA) / Eyes on the Board Act
- State proposals
 - NY Child Data Protection Act
 - Age-Appropriate Design Codes
 - Age Assurance Bills
 - “App-Store Bills”

What could schools expect under the new COPPA Rule?

The Federal Trade Commission's updated rule would impact the way K-12 leaders interact with ed tech companies — if Trump keeps it.

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[Anna Merod](#)
Reporter



The Federal Trade Commission's new rule to enforce the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act clarifies the additional protections and procedures required for companies that collect the data of children 13 and younger. *Stock Photo via Getty Images*

COPPA New Security Requirements

- Designate employee(s) to coordinate personal information security program;
- Identify and, at least annually, perform additional assessments to identify security (CIA) risks to child PII and the sufficiency of any safeguards in place to control such risks;
- Design, implement, and maintain safeguards to control identified risks;
- Regularly test and monitor effectiveness of safeguards in place to control identified risks;
- At least annually, evaluate and modify the personal information security program to address identified risks, results of required testing and monitoring, new or more efficient technological or operational methods to control for identified risks, or other circumstances that an operator knows or has reason to know may have a material impact.
- For 3rd party disclosures-determine [they] are capable of maintaining the confidentiality, security and integrity of such the information, and must obtain written assurances for “reasonable security measures”

And you thought we wouldn't mention “AI”

- Bills that limit or apply requirements to consequential decision making
 - “Educational opportunity or education enrollment” (e.g. CO)
- Civil Rights
- Deepfakes

Miscellaneous/Coming Soon

- Anti-tech pushes
- Chatbots (e.g. Character.ai)

Student privacy laws in the states

- Unintended consequences (e.g., Ohio)
- Enforcement (especially in New York)

CALL TO ACTION

Useful links / next steps:

What to do about

- Federal laws
- Technical assistance
- Advocacy