



2026 SDPC & UNITY CONVENING

*Charting The Future:
Privacy, People & the Power of Unity*

 **MARCH 16–19, 2026**
 **LONG BEACH, CA**

AGENDA

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DAY ONE: Monday, March 16

		KINGS VIEW ROOM
9:00am-10:00am		A4L Board of Directors Meeting (CLOSED)
10:30am-12:30pm		A4L Board of Directors, NA-LG & ITP-LG Meeting (CLOSED)
	QUEENS SALON	ROYAL SALON
1:00pm-1:30pm	REGISTRATION QUEENS SALON	
1:30pm-2:15pm	Welcome / Introductions <i>Steve Smith, Ben Silbergliitt, Alex Jackl</i>	
2:15pm-3:00pm	What is the Community all about? <i>Steve Smith, Association Board & Leadership Group members</i>	
3:00pm-3.30pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
	PRIVACY TRACK	INTEROPERABILITY TRACK
3.30pm-5:00pm	SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 1) <i>Bill Fritz, Kevin Ghantous, Libbi Nelson, A4L Staff</i>	Unity Implementors <i>June Gerred, Eric Levy, Turab Fatakdawala, George Gatsis</i>

Come and join us for our **Social Networking Reception from 5.30pm** in the **VERANDAH GRILL!**

Meet A4L Staff, Board Members, and your peers in an informal setting.

Put real faces (and legs) to Community members you have seen on the virtual Project Teams calls!

Day One Session Descriptions:

Session	Description
Welcome / Introductions	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Welcome session introducing the Convening as well as some A4L organizational updates.
What is this Community all about?	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION OPEN DISCUSSION</i> (Non-Technical) Heterogeneous groups of community members will participate in facilitated round table discussions about the A4L Community. Topic may include: What value do I see in and receive from the Community; What areas would I like to see the Community expand upon?; What is the value when separate A4L program areas are brought together (SIF/SDPC/GESS); What are future ideas to increase the value of the A4L Community as a whole?
SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 1)	<i>WORKSHOP / HANDS-ON TRAINING</i> Join these interactive training sessions to explore the new SDPC Resource Registry 2.0! Attendees will receive a comprehensive overview of the latest functionality and features, including a guided tour of the redesigned Resource Explorer, and the opportunity to test out new capabilities firsthand. The session will also provide actionable guidance for Alliance members on preparing for migration to Registry 2.0, along with insights into the roll-out plan and upcoming Phase 2 developments.
Unity Implementors	<i>OPEN DISCUSSION PANEL DISCUSSION</i> This opening panel brings together early Unity implementors from across the education data community to share their experiences and set the stage for the convening. Representatives from a state education agency, a school district, a major vendor, and a data privacy leader will discuss why they embraced the new SIF Unity standard and how it is transforming their data ecosystems. The conversation will highlight Unity's promise of connecting and securing learning systems (with interoperability and privacy built-in) and how it improves performance and data exchange in practice. Panelists will candidly address the motivations, challenges, and initial wins of their Unity adoption journeys, providing the audience with a broad understanding of what "Unity" means for K-12 education data and why it matters.

DAY TWO: Tuesday, March 17

	QUEENS SALON	ROYAL SALON
7:30am-8:30am	BREAKFAST <i>VERANDAH GRILL</i>	
8:00am-8:30am	REGISTRATION <i>QUEENS SALON</i>	
8:30am-9:30am	Incident Response & Data Security: Framework for a Resilient Ecosystem <i>Heather Mahoney, Ross Lemke, Mark Williams</i>	
9:30am-10:30am	The Interoperability of People Continues <i>Kathy Warren, Alex Jackl, Alexandra Cookson</i>	
10:30am-11:00am	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
	PRIVACY TRACK	INTEROPERABILITY TRACK
11:00am-12:30pm	'Hot Topics' discussion (Part One) <i>Jill Pierce, David Sallay</i>	Oklahoma's Unity Onboarding Story: From Pilot to Statewide Deployment <i>June Gerred, Aziz Elia</i>
12:30pm-1:30pm	NETWORKING LUNCH	
1:30pm-2:30pm	Governance That Doesn't Fall Apart When Someone Quits <i>Ross Lemke</i>	The Special Education Data Model (SEDM) <i>Greg Nadeau, Alex Jackl, Duane Brown</i>
2:30pm-3:30pm	National Data Privacy Agreement (NDPA) <i>Ramah Hawley, Mary Oemig, Libbi Nelson, Jim Siegl</i>	Unlocking Meaningful Transactional Data Across Programs with the Student Participation Object <i>June Gerred</i>
3:30pm-4:00pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
4:00pm-5:30pm	SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 2) <i>Bill Fritz, Kevin Ghantous, Libbi Nelson, A4L Staff</i>	CEDS Ontology 101 / CEDS & SIF Together Exploring Unity's Readiness for the CEDS Ontology <i>Alex Jackl, Duane Brown, Brandon Dorman, John Lovell</i>

Breakfast, refreshment breaks, and lunch will be served in **VERANDAH GRILL**.

Day Two Session Descriptions

Session	Description
Incident Response & Data Security: Frameworks for a Resilient Ecosystem	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> One of the main benefits of the NDPA over relying on a provider's privacy policy are the provisions related to data breach and having the provider identify which security frameworks they follow. In this session, we'll perform a deep dive of how the NDPA covers security and what gaps are left for a district to cover. Participants will learn what each of the security frameworks listed in Exhibit F mean, proactive steps they can take to minimize risk before an incident occurs, and how to coordinate effectively with a provider during an incident.
The interoperability of People Continues...	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> <i>"No amount of funding, technology, and data-driven innovation will solve systemic challenges unless equal attention is given to the relationships, communication, and human interactions that enable those systems to function"</i> Organizations make major investments in funding, technology, and data innovation to "solve problems" and yet systemic challenges persist and the need for MORE funding, NEWER technology, and GREATER Innovation doesn't seem to abate. The hardest work of interoperability is human. Maine DOE has developed a framework for the Interoperability of People that seeks to demonstrate how delivering accurate, complete and timely data through human systems of data quality, literacy and governance builds a culture of value creation that transcends investments in technology. To build on our concepts from last year, and including group interaction and conversation, this session will highlight the fractal nature of our building blocks and how the work has been progressed by distributing knowledge, aligning expectations, and turning human relationships into durable infrastructure.
'Hot Topics' discussion (Part One)	<i>ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION</i> Join your peers for roundtable discussions of various hot topics. For each topic, we will switch between breakout tables and full-group facilitated share outs to discuss the issues your districts are facing, what others have found to work, and what solutions we could collaborate on to help in the future.
Oklahoma's Unity Onboarding Story: From Pilot to Statewide Deployment	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> In Fall 2025, Oklahoma became one of the first states to fully deploy SIF Unity statewide—connecting local districts, vendors, and the state data system under one interoperable framework. This session provides a behind-the-scenes look at how Oklahoma planned, implemented, and scaled Unity adoption across its ecosystem. One State IT leaders and their integration partner will share how they navigated onboarding challenges, achieved district buy-in, and integrated key systems (SIS, assessment, finance, special education) using Unity's infrastructure and data model. The discussion will emphasize both policy and technical dimensions—including governance, vendor collaboration, and privacy assurance—and highlight what other states can learn from Oklahoma's journey. Attendees will gain actionable insights for launching their own Unity projects at district, regional, or statewide levels.
Governance That Doesn't Fall Apart When Someone Quits	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Let's be honest: governance often collapses when a project lead retires, a champion gets a new job, or a superintendent pivots priorities. This session offers a straightforward approach to building governance that survives real-world conditions: turnover, new tech like AI, and the inevitable "initiative fatigue" of K-12 ecosystems.

Session	Description
The Special Education Data Model (SEDM)	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> @Ed3 Jan 22, USED CDO Ross Santy said, “The special education data model is one of the key focus areas and one of the recurring topics that’s a real area of interest, and not just interest, but activity in 2026.” For the first time, Ed-Fi has joined Data Standards United to work together on a meta-model CEDS RFD starting with SEDM that will enable: CEDS as Data Dictionary. It can act as a fundamental “periodic table” of standard elements that can be mapped to other data standards and reference architectures and formed into standard data exchanges; CEDS as Universal Translator. It can be used to automate validations and transformations between sources and targets like ed-fi, SIF, PESC, CTDL, 1EdTech, and HR Open; and CEDS and AI. It can be used to provide JSON Model Context Protocol (MCP), an open standard for connecting Large Language Models (LLMs) to external data and tools. It simplifies AI development by standardizing communication between AI clients (LLMs) and data servers (MCP servers) that manage resources like files, databases, and APIs
National Data Privacy Agreement (NDPA)	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A OPEN DISCUSSION</i> At the 2025 Annual Meeting, the NDPA Project Team discussed updates from v2.1. Since then, we have released a v2.2 (with non-substantive changes), are holding a Community Review for a v2.3, and are looking to gather more information from the community for an eventual v3.0 release. In this session, we will review proposed changes and their rationale and also discuss plans for the future of the NDPA. This will be your chance to also interact with the project team face-to-face, ask questions, and provide them with feedback.
Unlocking Meaningful Transactional Data Across Programs with the Student Participation Object	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Oklahoma, in their second year of implementing 12 student participation programs, will explore critical considerations for planning the best approach for student participation to meet needs specific to state agencies and school districts. Topics will include: Best practices for multi-year and single-year programs; Technical guidance for using the student centric record across time and schools within the same district; Options for partial and full implementation and interaction between the Student Personal object and the Student Participation object; Business rules that affect SIS vendors; Business rules that affect the end user; Unity integration with 3rd party vendors for pass back program data; and Model a Student Program Participation application for stakeholders.
SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 2)	<i>WORKSHOP / HANDS-ON TRAINING</i> Join these interactive training sessions to explore the new SDPC Resource Registry 2.0! Attendees will receive a comprehensive overview of the latest functionality and features, including a guided tour of the redesigned Resource Explorer, and the opportunity to test out new capabilities firsthand. The session will also provide actionable guidance for Alliance members on preparing for migration to Registry 2.0, along with insights into the roll-out plan and upcoming Phase 2 developments.
CEDS Ontology 101 / CEDS & SIF Together Exploring Unity's Readiness for the CEDS Ontology	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A OPEN DISCUSSION PANEL DISCUSSION</i> In this session we will look at how to understand the CEDS Ontology, what its terms and structures mean, and why it represents such an innovative and AI-friendly change. We will then discuss how to apply and implement it in a SIF ecosystem and with the Unity Data Model. This will be a short presentation and then an opportunity to ask any questions about this exciting new development. As Unity adoption grows, attention is shifting to how well its existing objects align with the CEDS Ontology — the shared national data vocabulary that defines how education data connects across systems. This session explores Unity's readiness to support semantic alignment through its current data model and API objects. Using Assessment as a live example, panelists will examine how CEDS definitions map to Unity elements, what gaps or overlaps appear, and how future extensions could better support linked-data approaches.

DAY THREE: Wednesday, March 18

	QUEENS SALON	ROYAL SALON
7:30am-8:30am	BREAKFAST <i>VERANDAH GRILL</i>	
8:00am-8:30am	REGISTRATION <i>QUEENS SALON</i>	
	PRIVACY TRACK	INTEROPERABILITY TRACK
8:30am-9:30am	Beyond the DPA: The parts of the iceberg you can't ignore <i>Ross Lemke</i>	Scoping your SIF implementation <i>Mike Reynolds, Alex Jackl, Steve Setzer</i>
9:30am-10:30am	'Hot Topics' discussion (Part Two) <i>Jill Pierce, David Sallay</i>	How to weave other data standards into your complete ecosystem? <i>Alex Jackl, Brad Dorman, Steve Setzer</i>
10:30am-11:00am	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
11:00am-12:30pm	Collaboration in Action: Shared Services for Data Privacy, Security, and Vendor Management <i>Heather Mahoney, Libbi Nelson</i>	Vendor Perspectives: The Road to Unity <i>Jen Sauro, Turab Fatakdawala, Michael Lencioni</i>
12:30pm-1:30pm	LUNCH	
1:30pm-2:30pm	Evaluation and Testing: Looking Under the Hood Transparently, Safely, and Consistently <i>Bill Fitzgerald, Jim Siegl</i>	Maine's Road to Unity: From Customized State-Level SIS to Domain-Neutral Transport Agent <i>Mike Mikrut, Alexandra Cooke, Level Data reps</i>
2:30pm-3:30pm	Laws Regulating EdTech: State and Federal Proposals <i>Amelia Vance</i>	Credentials? Not Before the Data! <i>Kimberly Linson</i>
3:30pm-4:00pm	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
4:00pm-5:30pm	SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 3) <i>Bill Fritz, Kevin Ghantous, Libbi Nelson, A4L Staff</i>	Beyond K-12 Unity: Aligning with CEDS and Connecting to Workforce (JEDx) <i>Alex Jackl, Duane Brown, John Lovell</i>

Breakfast, refreshment breaks, and lunch will be served in **VERANDAH GRILL**.

Day Three Session Descriptions

Session	Description
Beyond the DPA: The parts of the iceberg you can't ignore	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> DPA's are the visible tip of the privacy iceberg. Beneath the surface are the real threats: unvetted apps; unmanaged accounts; forgotten vendors; and security vulnerabilities. Join this session to uncover what lurks below and how to build policies that don't sink at first contact.
Scoping your SIF implementation	<i>PANEL DISCUSSION</i> We will discuss AI, merging local infrastructure with the SIF Infrastructure, cross vertical integration with JEDx, and Costs (*Working with Infrastructure Team)
'Hot Topics' discussion (Part Two)	<i>ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION</i> Join your peers for roundtable discussions of various hot topics. For each topic, we will switch between breakout tables and full-group facilitated share outs to discuss the issues your districts are facing, what others have found to work, and what solutions we could collaborate on to help in the future.
How to weave other data standards into your complete ecosystem?	<i>OPEN DISCUSSION</i> In this session we will discuss how to evaluate your problem space so that you can choose the right standard for the right part of your solution.
Collaboration in Action: Shared Services for Data Privacy, Security, and Vendor Management	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A ROUND-TABLE DISCUSSION</i> This interactive session celebrates how state alliances have come together to successfully implement the A4L Community's SDPC NDPA, a unifying achievement in supporting data privacy and security across the country. Beyond this shared success, alliances provide a range of complementary support. Some focus primarily on helping educational agencies, such as school districts, strengthen their data security and privacy safeguards, while others are also helping districts manage vendors through procurement and sourcing, negotiating service agreements, monitoring product performance, influencing vendor product roadmaps, and addressing breaches or complaints. The session will also highlight emerging A4L SDPC initiatives, including the updated Resource Registry for NDPA agreements and the GESS Vendor Certification Program, offering opportunities to discuss how these tools can be adapted locally and developed collaboratively at a national level. Through structured discussion and small-group brainstorming, attendees will generate ideas to expand alliance offerings, identify opportunities for cross-state collaboration, and share approaches and resources that can be customized for local implementation. Participants will leave with actionable concepts, insights into national initiatives, and connections with peers to support ongoing collaboration in data privacy, security, and vendor management.
Vendor Perspectives: The Road to Unity	<i>PANEL DISCUSSION</i> In this panel, leading SIS and EdTech vendors provide an inside look at what it takes to support the Unity standard in their products. Four vendor representatives (e.g. SIS providers or major app vendors) will discuss their "road to Unity" – how they are updating systems to comply with SIF Unity's data model and RESTful APIs. They will address the engineering and business considerations of adopting an open standard: aligning with the comprehensive K-12 data model, ensuring compatibility with existing customer systems, and planning rollout. Vendors will emphasize that Unity isn't an all-or-nothing rewrite but rather builds on decades of prior SIF knowledge and investments, allowing them to leverage existing data models and software while modernizing interfaces. Each will share lessons learned in implementation, from dealing with multiple version support to collaborating with states and districts on pilot integrations.

Session	Description
Evaluation and Testing: Looking Under the Hood Transparently, Safely, and Consistently	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Evaluating software, products, and services is difficult to do consistently. This lack of consistency means that much testing and evaluation is relegated to one-off reporting, black box systems with opaque methodology, or other imprecise processes that make it difficult to trust and/or understand the results. Compounding these issues, many people or organizations running tests explain the process as something complex or outside the reach of even moderately technical users. Frankly, we reject the premise. The ability to evaluate the software and services we make, purchase, and/or rely on should be widely available to anyone interested. This session provides an overview of freely available, openly licensed tools and processes that have been used to successfully evaluate software, products, and services for over a decade.
Maine's Road to Unity: From Customized State-Level SIS to Domain-Neutral Transport Agent	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A PANEL DISCUSSION</i> Maine's education data journey demonstrates how a state can move from reliance on a customized state-level SIS that required districts to upload files from their local systems into a centralized product, toward a domain-neutral transport agent that empowers local SIS platforms and achieves true statewide interoperability. By shifting from file-based uploads into one central system to direct, bidirectional connections across diverse local platforms, Maine reduced duplication, improved efficiency, and respected local autonomy. This session will share how Maine mapped its SIF Profile, built strong vendor partnerships, and supported Local Education Agencies through cultural change, testing cycles, and persistence in overcoming delays. Panelists will highlight lessons learned and practical strategies for states considering similar transitions. Looking ahead, Maine envisions extending this transport model beyond student data, with staff data collection identified as a natural next step. Key takeaway: Unity is possible when we connect systems, not replace them. By the end of this session, participants will be able to: Differentiate between Maine's former approach of uploading files into a centralized customized state-level SIS and the new transport-agent model; Understand how the Unity transport agent enables direct, bidirectional data flow across diverse local SIS platforms; Identify the steps Maine took to map its SIF Profile and define transport needs without replacing local SIS systems; Recognize how vendor collaboration and district adoption were achieved by respecting local autonomy rather than enforcing a single statewide SIS; Analyze the cultural and technical challenges encountered during the transition, including testing cycles and managing delays; Apply lessons learned to their own contexts, focusing on standards and transport rather than file-based uploads or system replacement; and, Envision how the transport agent model can expand into future domains, such as staff data collection, while maintaining local control.

Session	Description
Laws Regulating EdTech: State and Federal Proposals	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Incorporating technology into classroom instruction has the potential to transform learning experiences and improve student outcomes, but without proper guidelines and safeguards in place, there is a serious risk of violating student privacy and creating other harms. Over the past two years, a confluence of factors—including cell phone bans normalizing technology restrictions, pandemic learning loss narratives, high-profile data breaches, and growing parental demands for individual opt-out rights—has fueled calls to restrict or entirely remove edtech from schools. In December, NTIA convened the first major federal listening session on screen time in schools, signaling heightened federal attention to these concerns. This presentation will address the current federal and state legal landscape governing technology procurement and use in schools, including FERPA, COPPA, and the 150+ state student privacy laws passed since 2014. We will then explore how pending federal activity could reshape school-vendor relationships and consent requirements—from heightened FERPA enforcement and Congressional parental rights proposals to the FTC’s evolving position on school consent authority and COPPA 2.0’s effort to codify it into statute. Attendees will gain insight into the factors driving parental and policy pushback against edtech, learn how well-intentioned privacy proposals can create unintended consequences that harm the students they aim to protect (including equity impacts when individual opt-out requirements disadvantage marginalized students), and explore frameworks for modernizing student privacy protections in ways that preserve educational opportunity while strengthening data governance.
Credentials? Not Before the Data!	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Digital credentials are rapidly emerging as a cornerstone of modern education and workforce ecosystems — but too often the conversation jumps straight to issuing badges without first addressing the data foundation that makes those credentials trustworthy, portable, and interoperable. In practice, the promise of digital credentials can only be fulfilled when underlying data is structured, standardized, and aligned across systems. That is where SIF — as a mature, community-owned standard — becomes an essential piece of the architecture that powers credentials at scale. In this session, we will take a standards-first view of digital credentials by showing how robust data integration practices, built on a foundation like SIF, make it possible to turn unstructured or fragmented records into reliable learner evidence. Rather than treating credentials as standalone artifacts, we position them as outputs of a coherent data ecosystem where: Student and learning data flows seamlessly across districts, state agencies, postsecondary systems, and credential issuers; Common definitions, semantics, and transport frameworks reduce the friction of data exchange; and Data lakes and pipelines fed by standard-aligned SIF streams provide clean, trustworthy sources for credentialing decisions, reporting, and verification. Drawing on real-world state implementations, we’ll bridge the gap between technical interoperability and strategic credential outcomes. Mike Reynolds will share how SIF implementations have modernized statewide data infrastructures, enabled cross-system visibility, and improved the readiness of systems to support credentialing in ways legacy point-to-point integrations can’t. Kimberly will connect those lessons to the strategic needs of credentials — where the value isn’t in badges themselves, but in the data lifecycle that underlies them. Attendees will come away with a clearer understanding of how SIF and standards-driven data architecture strengthen digital credential strategies, reduce redundant work, and unlock new possibilities for learners by making their achievements more meaningful, portable, and actionable.

Session	Description
SDPC Resource Registry 2.0 (Part 3)	<i>WORKSHOP / HANDS-ON TRAINING</i> Join these interactive training sessions to explore the new SDPC Resource Registry 2.0! Attendees will receive a comprehensive overview of the latest functionality and features, including a guided tour of the redesigned Resource Explorer, and the opportunity to test out new capabilities firsthand. The session will also provide actionable guidance for Alliance members on preparing for migration to Registry 2.0, along with insights into the roll-out plan and upcoming Phase 2 developments.
Beyond K-12 Unity: Aligning with CEDS and Connecting to Workforce (JEDx)	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> Interoperability doesn't stop at K-12 – data standards are evolving to support the P–20W pipeline, from early learning through workforce. This session broadens the lens on Unity adoption to see how it fits into the larger ecosystem. First, we'll examine Unity's alignment with the U.S. national data dictionary, Common Education Data Standards (CEDS). Unity was designed with support for CEDS built in, allowing states and vendors to implement the standard definitions and even map directly to federal reporting requirements like EDFacts. A state data manager or CEDS representative will discuss how using CEDS in tandem with Unity can ensure semantic consistency across different systems – everyone “speaking the same language” about student data. Next, the session will explore connecting K-12 data to workforce and employment data via the emerging JEDx (Jobs and Employment Data Exchange) initiative. A presenter involved in JEDx will explain this public-private effort to standardize job and employment records and how education data (such as transcripts, credentials, or K-12 performance indicators) might flow into that system. We'll discuss how states are beginning to link education and workforce data to better track outcomes and inform policy (sometimes called P20W or longitudinal data systems). By adopting Unity in K-12 and aligning with efforts like JEDx, education agencies can ensure their data can securely follow students into college and careers, empowering learners with their own records in the future.

DAY FOUR: Thursday, March 19

	QUEENS SALON	ROYAL SALON
7:30am-8:30am	BREAKFAST <i>VERANDAH GRILL</i>	
8:00am-8:30am	REGISTRATION <i>QUEENS SALON</i>	
	PRIVACY TRACK	INTEROPERABILITY TRACK
8:30am-9:30am	Protecting Student Data Can Be a Perilous Journey <i>Connie Coy, Ramah Hawley</i>	EDUcore: Building a Foundation for Solutions to Stand On <i>Alex Jackl, Greg Nadeau, Brad Dorman, Elizabeth Murphy</i>
9:30am-10.30am	Privacy and AI: Policy, Compliance, and Risks <i>Laurel Nava, Erin Clancy, Mark Williams, Amelia Vance</i>	AI and Education Data: Unlocking Insights with Interoperability <i>Joerg Huber, Jack Setzer, Aziz Elia, Alex Jackl, TQ White II</i>
10.30am-11.00am	REFRESHMENT BREAK	
11.00am-12.00pm	Safe and Effective AI for Learning <i>Greg Nadeau, David Sallay</i>	
12:00pm-12:30pm	Closing session <i>Steve Smith</i>	
12.30pm-1:30pm	LUNCH (BOXED)	

Breakfast, refreshment breaks, and lunch will be served in **VERANDAH GRILL**.

Day Four Session Descriptions

Session	Description
Protecting Student Data Can Be a Perilous Journey	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A</i> This session will cover strategies to chart a course from cyber security to student data privacy, develop a crew to assist, and to conquer new challenges.
EDUcore: Building a Foundation for Solutions to Stand On	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A OPEN DISCUSSION</i> EDUcore is a new Gates funded project by Data Standard United that aligns what already exists into a governed semantic backbone and a practical 'source of truth'. It will source a reference library with versioned mappings tied to real use cases, so districts, colleges, employers, and states can retain their current systems while gaining safe, secure, lower-cost interoperability.
Privacy and AI: Policy, Compliance, and Risks	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A PANEL DISCUSSION</i> AI in education moves pretty fast. Legislatures across the country are proposing new bills to address its adoption at a time when schools are grappling with how to follow existing regulations and use the tools in safe, ethical ways. At the same time, there are many privacy-violating ways these tools are being used in society (e.g., deepfakes) that are not easily addressed by passing laws. In this session, we'll stop and look around the privacy and AI legal landscape, reviewing the trends we are seeing in legislatures around the country. We'll also learn more about how SDPC Alliances like California have been addressing AI tools using the NDPA.
AI and Education Data: Unlocking Insights with Interoperability	<i>PANEL DISCUSSION</i> This forward-looking session examines the intersection of AI/ML and data interoperability in education. Now that schools and states are unifying their data through standards like Unity, they can begin to harness modern analytics and AI tools to drive insights – but only if the data is well-organized and accessible. A panel of experts (AI solution providers, a district data officer, and a privacy advocate) will discuss how a unified data strategy enables real-time and predictive analytics in K-12. They will share examples of using integrated data for early-warning systems, personalized learning recommendations, and operational efficiencies, all powered by machine learning on top of interoperable data streams. Just as importantly, the session will address safeguards: how to maintain student privacy and equity when applying AI. Panelists will explore what policies or technical measures need to be in place so that leveraging AI does not compromise data privacy or magnify biases – aligning with the "Privacy, People & the Power of Unity" theme.
Safe and Effective AI for Learning	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A OPEN DISCUSSION</i> While most initial AI sanctioned for K12 use has focuses on administrative and instructional support, the ultimate impact will likely be through direct interactions with learners. If done correctly, learning science has shown the potential for massive learning gains. Such gains, however, could come with risks to minors that could include reduced agency, social confidence, and independence. This session will explore the rapidly changing landscape of pro-social AI blended hyper learning and discuss with participants how the Student Data Privacy Consortium may play a role in providing more informed control.
Closing Session	<i>PRESENTATION / Q&A OPEN DISCUSSION</i> As we bring the Convening to a close, this session will highlight key themes, celebrate the progress made across the A4L Community, and acknowledge the connections and partnerships strengthened through networking, presentations, roundtables, and hands-on sessions... and also look at what's to come! Participants will be invited to share insights, takeaways, and priorities they're carrying forward, as well as identify opportunities for continued collaboration throughout the year.