



# Access 4 Learning Community

Powered by:  **SIF**

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## NEWSLETTER

### September 2020

IT'S TIME TO FOCUS ON USING DATA TO IMPACT LEARNING...

IN THIS ISSUE

## The New 'Normal' ...Let's Hope Not!

by Larry Fruth II, PhD – Executive Director / CEO

Being a non-profit organization made up of hundreds of volunteers – both end users and marketplace providers – the “let’s get back to school” focus has provided some interesting informal research data points:

### We look at educational technology differently,

No longer are we talking about ed technology as an “add on” but now an expected set of tools needed to support learning. It was about time that we would get past talking about its use – like we never talked about chalkboard use – and move toward what it can do for practitioners and learners.

### We look at teachers differently,

The conversations about learning and the role teachers play have become a hot topic in café’s, sporting events, social media and even in town hall meetings. It seems to have been beneficial for parents and communities to “walk in a teacher’s shoes” for a bit even though it is probably been with only one or two and not a class of 30!

### We look at marketplace providers differently,

The quick shift last spring to almost all schools becoming virtual placed new demands on marketplace providers while needing to maintain support for their existing schools and individual

learners. As much as schools and communities have been heads down with school re-opening, providers also have been running fast to deliver. While there are many new players in the space it is still true that the most productive provider-customer relations are when both set common expectations and look at it as a partnership and not just a contract obligation.

### We look at learning differently.

Education practitioners have talked about differentiated, personalized, individualized learning for years. The shift to allowing for different delivery mechanisms (face to face, hybrid or virtual) has increased teacher, parent and even student awareness of how they learn “best”. If we can assure access, technology can be the great “non-equalizer” which is a good thing in this sense where all kids do not learn in the same way.

I hope you read through the newsletter to see how the Community is stepping up to allow for these changes to take place and make sure “it just works”. Our new mantra is A4L/SDPC is a Community “connecting and securing effective learning ecosystems” and we hope you see that in all the updates coming your way.

Be safe and let us keep moving together!



### Global Community News

OpenAPI & A4L: Global Cooperation Pays Off Big; Welcome new members; Quality Assurance: We Need Your Input; By-Laws 2020; Privacy on the Wire – come join the fun!

[Page 2](#)

### AU Community News

SIF Implementation Specification (Australia) 3.4.7 now available

[Page 4](#)

### NA Community News

Unity Specification Mappings Release published; Unity EDFacts Mapping; CEDS IDS Adaptor – Developers Wanted; xPress Roster Mapping and Beyond

[Page 5](#)

### Partner Update

[Page 7](#)

### Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) News

SDPC National Data Privacy Agreement (DPA) published

[Page 8](#)

### WEBINARS: Connecting & Securing Effective Ecosystems

A virtual Annual Meeting that actually works with your schedule!

[Page 9](#)

# Global Community News



## OpenAPI & A4L: Global Co-operation Pays off Big

Throughout the development of the Global SIF Infrastructure and xPress Roster API we leveraged developer sandboxes to prove out our work and smooth the onramp for developers. Happily the service description format for the tool we chose has grown into an open standard in and of itself known as [OpenAPI](#).

OpenAPI is a RESTful service description that aids developers in two important ways. First, it can be processed into very detailed documentation for developers to reference when creating software. Second, software components that used to be written by hand can now be automatically generated for over 40 programming languages. Both of these things greatly ease the creation of

software compatible with the API described. Sounds good.

### *Where do OpenAPI files come from?*

Here is where the international community enters the stage. For the last couple of years all A4L locales and even the Global Infrastructure Team have been releasing data model specifications and schemas using the same, internationally developed, tool. Recognizing an opportunity, Stuart McGrigor from New Zealand extended the tool to create OpenAPI files based on the data model being generated. From there Australians Linda Marshall and Joerg Huber have been working to refine the process to accurately reflect all of the options afforded by the Global SIF

Infrastructure. Going forward all locales are expected to produce developer documentation and make OpenAPI files available for other uses.

Anyone wanting to start working with OpenAPI files today can download an early version generated for the Global SIF Infrastructure from [here](#).



## Welcome new members!

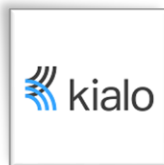
### STUDENT DATA PRIVACY CONSORTIUM (SDPC) MEMBERS:



AFSA Education Foundation



BSD Education



Kialo Inc.



Loop Devices Inc.



PTC

### A4L COMMUNITY & SDPC MEMBER:



MOREnet

## Quality Assurance: We need your input!

OpenAPI has the potential to change the Quality Assurance landscape. This is because OpenAPI can be used not only to generate documentation and code but to configure servers that demonstrate and validate the use of the API described. It therefore becomes probable that some states or other large implementations will leverage OpenAPI to perform Quality Assurance tests and enjoy the benefits of validated software.

Today each active locale has systems to validate software for their data model and to varying degrees the Global SIF Infrastructure. Australia has HITS for exemplifying a Data Hub and testing software against the [System Baseline Profile \(SBP\)](#). New Zealand has a non-production copy of their [Te Rito APIs](#), utilizing curated sample data, which tests software seeking to participate in government reporting. North America currently has two different Test Harnesses that accept a Conformance Statement and generate a Test Session that can then be used to secure a [SIF Certification](#).

Given the existing high level of activity around Quality Assurance we don't want to assume that everyone will quickly switch to an OpenAPI approach or even that it will eventually become common.

### So, we are going to ask questions.

What level of Quality Assurance do End Users need? Can we help Marketplace Providers seamlessly incorporate on-the-wire Quality Assurance into their regular testing practices? How does the Community make the most of this opportunity? Is this still something best tackled by each locale? As you can see, while OpenAPI is the precipitating event, it is not what should drive the conversation or even be the assumed solution.

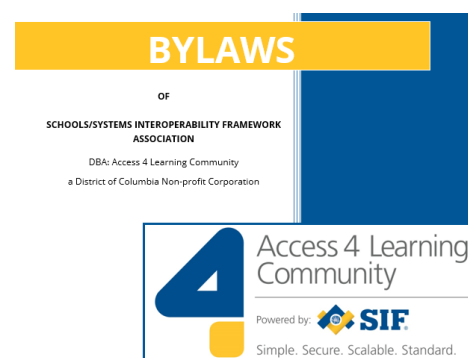


## By-Laws 2020

We are pleased to publish revised 2020 By-Laws for the A4L Community.

Minor revisions to the existing By-Laws were made to reflect the ongoing changes within the Community in regard to Management Boards, Project Teams, and nomenclature.

[Review the 2020 By-Laws >>](#)



## Privacy on the wire

A combined global team from Australia, United States, United Kingdom and New Zealand is moving ahead with development of a Personal Privacy Obligation Document (PPOD) specification for use in communicating, in machine readable format, individual preferences and permissions regarding access to personal information. The PPOD complements the Privacy Obligation Document (POD) specification which communicates access controls at the cohort level, and which is already in pilot.

The PPOD design includes:

- Linking the object to a given person and/or enrolment

- Including details of the applicable laws which apply to the record (including extra territorial e.g. GDPR)
- Consent for sharing of data for specific purposes (e.g. sharing of results data with colleges/universities)
- Prohibition of sharing of data (e.g. do not share mental health/wellbeing information with employers)
- Permissions for performing activities (e.g. walking to school from home, or use of the internet at school)

Help us nail the PPOD!

The A4L Data Privacy Project Team meet on the second Tuesday, every month. Come join the fun!

Meeting information can be found on the Community Site group page: <https://www.A4L.org/group/DataPrivacy>



# News from the Australian Community



## SIF Data Model Implementation Specification (Australia) 3.4.7

The AU A4L Community is pleased to announce the release of the SIF Data Model Specification (Australia) 3.4.7.

The main changes in this release flow from work with the Australian Government Department of Education Skills and Employment to include objects that will be used to automate the collection of data from non-government schools associated with the following data annual data collections: Financial Questionnaire, Census, Student Attendance and Address Collection.

Other enhancements include: the addition of the Library Patron Status

Object which reports on the current library transactions and status for the requested student or staff member; and a change to attendance codes to support changed learning arrangements during the COVID-19 pandemic.

For more information, please contact the [National Schools Interoperability Program \(NSIP\)](#)

[View the Specification >>](#)



## Don't forget...



**North America:** Apart from Arizona, Hawaii, some areas of British Columbia and East Kootenays, and most of Saskatchewan (where daylight savings time is not observed), daylight savings time ends on **November 1, 2020** – clocks move **BACK** one hour.

**United Kingdom:** Daylight savings time ends on **October 25, 2020** – clocks move **BACK** one hour.



**Australia:** Daylight saving varies from state to state and is used only in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia, Tasmania, and the Australian Capital Territory. All A4L meetings are currently scheduled in AU Eastern time zone. For the south-eastern states and the Australian Capital Territory, daylight savings time begins on **October 4, 2020** – clocks move **FORWARD** one hour.

**New Zealand:** All of New Zealand, including Auckland, Christchurch, and Wellington, start Daylight Savings Time one week earlier than Australia on **September 27, 2020** – clocks move **FORWARD** one hour.

# News from the North American Community



## Unity Specification (Mappings Release) now available!

**NEWS:** The Latest Unity Specification Release Supports 'Future-Proofing' Ecosystems

Washington, DC, 22 September, 2020 --- The Access 4 Learning® (A4L) Community, is proud to announce the latest release of the new Unity Specification which provides standardization of learning data, ranging from everything from classroom rostering to federal data reporting, while addressing privacy issues throughout the education data continuum.



"The Community needs to be applauded for their great work, both end users and marketplace providers, in the hectic task of getting schools open and operational for the 2020 school year", states Larry L Fruth II, PhD A4L's Executive Director/CEO. "We collectively have timed this comprehensive set of resources to support the futureproofing

of school/state data systems after this initial rush was complete. This release, and the supporting resource package, underscores the Community's new focus on *"connecting and securing effective learning ecosystems"*.

The release updates and provides resources support for:

- Common Education Data Standard (CEDS)
- Dedicated xPress Roster API
- Individual Education Plans (IEPs)
- Leveraging Global SIF Infrastructure
- Data Privacy Control
- EDFacts Mapping

The Unity Specification was built by our volunteer members developed using open, non-proprietary, and transparent processes. It contains the most comprehensive K12 data model and modern, internationally used transport technologies to securely move the data to provide it to the right person at the

right time in the right way under local data privacy control per Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) guidance. The 'Unity' infrastructure has increased performance and security on the wire, ease of usage, and scales for the widest educational focused interoperability by any technical standard - with or without the need for middleware!

"This latest release provides an incredibly powerful way for education agencies to deliver data using modern infrastructure, following a well-established data standard, while maintaining a focus on privacy and security. The ability of this grassroots movement to continue to evolve is exemplary - kudos to the A4L Community for this important leap forward for schools" acknowledged Ben Silberglitt, Founder and Chief Strategy Officer, CedarLabs.

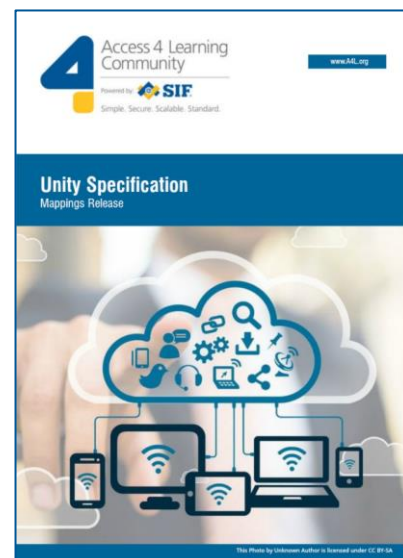
[Find out more >>](#)



[<< YouTube video](#)

[Online Magazine >>](#)

[DOWNLOAD PDF](#)



## Unity EDfacts Mapping

The A4L Community is delighted to publish the [Unity](#) [EDFacts](#) [Mapping](#) documentation to help guide modernization of longitudinal data systems, in North America.

The Unity ED Facts Mapping is one component in our suite of documentation supporting the latest Unity Specification release. [ED Facts](#) is a U.S. Department of Education (ED) initiative *to collect, analyze, and promote the use of high-quality, pre-kindergarten through grade 12 data*. It makes up the core of federal reporting for education

in the U.S.A. EDFacts and many other pieces and parts of education data are made more relatable by the [Common Education Data Standards](#) (CEDS) which the Unity EDFacts Mapping leverages in order to maximize understanding between data systems and standards.

The Unity EDFacts Mapping includes 95+ brand new fields to support this work. Having a reference mapping containing these alignments should greatly accelerate and automate state reporting and core data collection needs, saving valuable time and resources. If any of

these initiatives interest you, please investigate the Unity EDFacts Mapping.

Further questions about Unity adoption can be directed to [John Lovell, A4L Technology Director](#).

[illegible]

# CEDS IDS Adaptor - Developers Wanted



We just highlighted the Unity EDFacts Mapping and how it should be a great boon for states doing federal reporting. We have a golden opportunity to take this work even further by helping states even more. By using the data adaptor designed around the [Unified Reporting Integrated Data Store \(URIDS\)](#)

states will be able to move data into **Generate** and perform reporting directly from there.

Fortunately, we have access to leader of the previous project. However, there is a lot of programming to do to update the data models underpinning this software. For this reason, we are looking for states and their vendors to carefully consider

contributing .Net developers time to this project. We firmly believe that it is much more efficient for all of us to work on this as a team rather than duplicating each other's efforts.

If you are interested in contributing .NET developer time to this project, please contact [John Lovell](#), A4L Technology Director.

## xPress Roster Mapping & Beyond

As Unity gains traction people are increasingly looking to create integrations that use the included xPress Roster objects alongside the established ones. To that end the North American Technical Board has released an [updated xPress Roster Mapping](#) that covers these relationships. Making the task of creating such an integration much more straight-forward.

xPress Roster is a simplified set of data objects that are included beside the rest of the data model. It is designed to get educational applications the information quickly and easily they need with the fewest complications possible. Rosters represent the natural grouping of learners by class sections they are

enrolled in. This information is fundamental to determining which educational software titles a student needs.

The largest xPress Roster integration in the United States is the [RIC One API](#) project in New York state. The listed benefits of this project are: it makes it easier for districts to connect different systems that operate independently, it promotes efficiencies and enables districts to implement new IT solutions with ease, it improves data quality, it increases educators, parents and students' ability to access and leverage data, and that districts maintain control of their student and teacher data at all times. The [RIC One API Marketplace](#)

currently list forty-nine compatible applications.

We are starting to receive suggestions for how to update xPress Roster. ***If your Rostering Standard is coming up short, please let us know by filling out this quick [survey](#).***

## START SURVEY

[illegible]

# Partner Update

## Data Standards United

A4L is proud to be one of the organizing entities around a loose gathering of data standards groups called "Data Standards United". Included in the group is PESC, HR Open, ADL, CEDS, Medbiquitous, IEEE, EdSpex and other associated organizations that depend on technical standard development and usage.

The goal of this gathering of the minds is to make each other aware of the work

currently going on and present opportunities for collaboration to achieve the group's vision to *'collaborate and align standards to support the education and workforce digital ecosystem.'*

Other organizations are being invited to the gatherings as long as they can abide by the following core values:

- Free access to data standards.

- Transparent, voluntary, consensus-based standards development, approval, and maintenance processes.
- Public support of the Data Standards United collaborative and lifelong learning standards.

We expect some great collaborations and streamlining of data standards to come from this work so stay tuned!

## COVID-19 Education Coalition

The A4L Executive Director is the co-lead for Privacy, Security and Digital Citizenship for the [ISTE Learning Keeps Going Project](#). The massive project is designed to support educators and parents during extended school closures with a curated list of free tools and resources as well as an Educator Help Desk where experts will answer online learning questions. The task force has convened over the past months to help generate supporting

materials addressing these critical areas both pre and post CoVID, and are proud to contribute to the resources available:

### Privacy, Security & Digital Citizenship

Our education system must consider how to structure high quality teaching and learning now that technology is playing a larger role than ever before. The COVID-19 Education Coalition has curated this list of resources on keeping technology systems safe, student data

protected and promoting healthy digital decision-making. Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/34FubFC>



## Project Unicorn

**WEBINAR: SEPTEMBER 23 – 3PM ET**

Registration: [bit.ly/a4lunicornwebinar](https://bit.ly/a4lunicornwebinar)

**Streamline your procurement practice** with Project Unicorn and the Student Data Privacy Consortium on September 23rd. Hear about the new National Data Privacy Clause from those who have built it and implemented it to discover how it can **optimize your procurement** and make sure that **your data is protected**. Joined by

speakers including **Al Motley** from Techademics, **Libbi Garrett** with California IT in Education, **Larry Fruth** with A4L Community, and **Erin Mote** with Project Unicorn to understand what procurement tools are available to you, know how to use them, and hear from our speakers why now more than ever, we need to ensure that our tools are secure and interoperable for **districts, states, and vendors**.

**BACK TO SCHOOL WITH PROCUREMENT:**  
Exploring the New NDPA, Privacy, and Interoperability

Streamline your procurement practice with Project Unicorn and the Student Data Privacy Consortium on September 23rd. Hear about the new National Data Privacy Clause from those who have built it and implemented it to discover how it can optimize your procurement and make sure that your data is protected. Joined by speakers including Al Motley from Techademics, Libbi Garrett with California IT in Education, Larry Fruth with A4L Community, and Erin Mote with Project Unicorn to understand what procurement tools are available to you, know how to use them, and hear from our speakers why now more than ever, we need to ensure that our tools are secure and interoperable for districts, states, and vendors.

Registration:  
[bit.ly/a4lunicornwebinar](https://bit.ly/a4lunicornwebinar)

**SEP 23**  
3:00PM ET

**REGISTER TODAY!**

# News from the Student Data Privacy Consortium



## National Data Privacy Agreement (DPA) published

Washington, DC, 29 July, 2020 ---The Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC), a special interest group of the non-profit Access 4 Learning (A4L) Community, is proud to announce the release of the first National Data Privacy Agreement (NDPA) to streamline application contracting and set common expectations between schools/districts and marketplace providers.

"The achievement of the first NDPA marks a huge milestone for the Consortium" states Steve Smith, CIO, Cambridge Public Schools. "From its origins the SDPC's goal has been to build common expectations between LEAs, SEAs, Parents, Students and Marketplace Providers around student data privacy agreements. This first NDPA is the result of six years of community work of building bridges and facilitating collaboration between all in the JK-12 edtech world. Although this feels like a final product, I'm optimistic that this is actually the beginning of a new phase of privacy awareness and best practice adoption across the marketplace."

Currently, the freely accessible SDPC Resource Registry hosts over 15,000 signed Data Privacy Agreements (DPAs) between more than 8,000 schools/districts and 4,500 education application providers. These DPAs have been developed by the 28 state Alliances addressing their specific state needs. The Alliance leaders determined in 2019 that there was enough commonality between their DPAs that a national DPA Project Team be formed and explore the viability of developing a draft that could be used by any school/district across the US. Two years later, the Community is proud to release the first version of the NDPA.

The NDPA has been developed with extensive review and comments from schools, districts, state organizations, marketplace providers and their legal representatives. It is designed to address common student data privacy concerns and streamline the educational application contracting processes for schools/districts who do not have the legal or fiscal resources and vendors who previously had to sign "one off" contracts with each of the over 13,000 US school districts. While the NDPA allows for any state specific legislative requirements, the majority of the privacy expectations are standardized and can be used by any entity as part of their Terms of Service Agreements.

Allen Miedema, Executive Director, Technology Department at Northshore School District commented "Having a Statewide Data Privacy Agreement for the State of Washington has been an enormous success. It has saved LEAs an incredible amount of time in privacy policy review and negotiations while putting far better agreements in place as software systems are on-boarded. Vendors have realized the same savings in resources since they are able to work out one agreement in WA instead of up to 295 different ones. As we've worked with districts and vendors the past few years, the enhancement that has been consistently asked for is one agreement that could work across all states. With the release of the NDPA, the PK12 community should see even greater savings and an even better product."

To access the work of the SDPC, including this marketplace impacting project, visit <https://privacy.A4L.org>

### DON'T MISS OUR NEXT SDPC VENDOR SHOWCASE WEBINAR

**Establishing a Robust Student  
Data Privacy Culture**

**THURSDAY, OCT 15 - 2PM EST**

Don't miss the next Vendor Showcase featuring [Reg Leichty](#), Founder and Partner of Foresight Policy + Law to explore federal and state privacy laws impacting education. With over two decades of policy and legal experience, Reg advises national education associations, state education agencies, school districts, non-profit leaders, and companies about federal education, student data privacy, and technology law. During this showcase, state and district leaders will learn about action steps to manage and support a culture of student data privacy.

**SPEAKERS:** *Monica Cougan, CatchOn & Reg Leichty, Foresight Law and Policy*



[More information](#)

# Connecting and Securing Effective Learning Ecosystems

A VIRTUAL ANNUAL MEETING THAT ACTUALLY WORKS WITH YOUR SCHEDULE!

The Access 4 Learning (A4L) Community, and its Special Interest Group the Student Data Privacy Consortium (SDPC) is partnering with numerous other educational organizations to bring you and your organization a set of Annual Meeting webinars that actually work in your calendar – no all-day blocks of time!

**Connecting & Securing Effective Learning Ecosystems** is a month of “tactical” data interoperability and privacy conversations with real-world strategies and examples to support the work of schools, states, and marketplace providers. It makes sense since the A4L Community is the ONLY place where end users and providers are addressing BOTH interoperability and privacy of student data.

**Put in your calendar today and plan on joining us for five informative, interactive 90-minute sessions to find out from your peers how to ensure and support your own ‘connected & secure effective learning ecosystem’.**

This is not your typical set of virtual webinars. You will receive “pre-session” resources, hear from practitioners in the field on what works and what challenges they have had in creating their ecosystems, how to use multiple standards together, effective privacy

stewardship and even roll up your sleeves working sessions to create resources from the 3,000 member A4L collaborative. You will walk away from sessions with tools and practices to

immediately use in your own institution.

Now that IS a different type of Annual Meeting!



**FEB 3,  
2021**

12NOON ET / 9AM PT

## Connecting and Securing - Setting the Stage

- ❖ Data Access is Easier Than Ever with More Data Each Day – Is That A Good Thing?
- ❖ School and State Leadership On Local Control Issues



**FEB 10,  
2021**

12NOON ET / 9AM PT

## Foundations of “Connecting” Ecosystems in the Real World

- ❖ Setting the Course for Standardizing – Stopping the “Wheel Re-invention”
- ❖ Starting with the Data Dictionary and Maturing to Usage Tools All Under Local Control



**FEB 17,  
2021**

12NOON ET / 9AM PT

## Foundations of “Securing” Ecosystems Student Privacy

- ❖ Data Stewardship 101 – Setting Common Expectations Between Vendors and Customers
- ❖ The Securing Continuum: From Legislation to Ecosystem Implementation and All Steps In-Between



**FEB 24,  
2021**

12NOON ET / 9AM PT

## Connecting and Securing in the Real World

- ❖ The MA Data Hub Solution



**MAR 3,  
2021**

12NOON ET / 9AM PT

## Strategies 101 – Current Pain Points & Approaches

- ❖ Identification of the Hurdles & Discussion on Varied Approaches to Address Hurdles

Actionable Take-Away Summary

**REGISTER TODAY!**

### THANK YOU TO OUR SPONSORS:

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#### ‘Advocate’ Sponsors





## In the News

The Latest Unity Specification and Resource Package Release Supports 'Future-Proofing' School and State Digital Ecosystem as The Only Technical Blueprint Addressing Both Privacy and Interoperability – [click here](#)

The First National Model Student Data Privacy Agreement Launches – [click here](#)

Student Data Privacy Consortium announce the release of the National Data Privacy Agreement – [click here](#)

## A4L Community Functional Group Meeting Schedule

| <u>Day</u>                             | <u>Frequency</u>                                     | <u>Group</u>                                  | <u>Staff Liaison</u>                                    |
|----------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>INTERNATIONAL</b>                   |                                                      |                                               | <i>meetings are shown/based on US Eastern time zone</i> |
| Tuesday                                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues, quarterly                      | <b>Association Board of Directors</b>         | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Tuesday                                | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Tues, monthly                        | <b>Data Privacy</b>                           | Penny Murray                                            |
| Tuesday                                | Every 4 weeks                                        | <b>D3M</b>                                    | John Lovell                                             |
| Tuesday                                | 4 <sup>th</sup> Tues, monthly                        | <b>Policy &amp; Procedures</b>                | John Lovell                                             |
| Wednesday                              | Bi-weekly                                            | <b>Infrastructure</b>                         | John Lovell                                             |
| Wednesday                              | Bi-weekly                                            | <b>Open Source Developers Network</b>         | John Lovell                                             |
| Thursday                               | Every 4 weeks                                        | <b>International Technical Board</b>          | John Lovell                                             |
| <b>NORTH AMERICA</b>                   |                                                      |                                               | <i>meetings are shown/based on US Eastern time zone</i> |
| Wednesday                              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Weds, quarterly                      | <b>NA Management Board</b>                    | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Wednesday                              | Bi-weekly                                            | <b>NA Technical Board</b>                     | John Lovell                                             |
| <b>STUDENT DATA PRIVACY CONSORTIUM</b> |                                                      |                                               | <i>meetings are shown/based on US Eastern time zone</i> |
| Wednesday                              | 1 <sup>st</sup> Weds, Qtrly (1 <sup>st</sup> month)  | <b>SDPC Management Board</b>                  | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Wednesday                              | 1 <sup>st</sup> Weds, Qtrly (2 <sup>nd</sup> month)  | <b>Consortium Updates</b>                     | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Wednesday                              | 2 <sup>nd</sup> Weds, Qtrly (2 <sup>nd</sup> month)  | <b>SDPC Alliance Updates</b>                  | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Thursday                               | 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs, Qtrly (1 <sup>st</sup> month) | <b>SDPC Vendor Project Team</b>               | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Thursday                               | 1 <sup>st</sup> Thurs, Qtrly (2 <sup>nd</sup> month) | <b>SDPC Legislative Activity Project Team</b> | Larry Fruth                                             |
| Thursday                               | Bi-Weekly                                            | <b>SDPC Legal Project Team</b>                | Larry Fruth                                             |

**A4L Community Members can find further information on each group on the collaboration area / A4L Community Site here.**  
(member log in required)



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LinkedIn



YouTube



Twitter (NA)



Twitter (UK)



Twitter (AU)

## About the Access 4 Learning Community

There is no other global community made up of educational policymakers, marketplace product and service providers and the customers they serve, collaborating daily to address real word learning information and resource issues.

The Access 4 Learning (A4L) Community, previously the SIF Association, is a unique, non-profit collaboration composed of schools, districts, local authorities, states, US and International Ministries of Education, software vendors and consultants who collectively address all aspects of learning information management and access to support learning. The A4L Community is "Powered by SIF" Specifications as its major technical tool to allow for this management and access simply, securely and in a scalable, standard way regardless of the platform hosting those applications. The Access 4 Learning Community has united these education technology end users and providers in an unprecedented effort to give teachers more time to do what they do best: teach. For further information, visit <https://www.A4L.org>

## Contact Us

### Larry Fruth II, PhD Executive Director/CEO

Provides direction and leadership toward the achievement of the organization's philosophy, mission, strategy, and its annual goals and objectives. Support includes Board Administration and Support, Program and Service Delivery, Financial and Human Resource Management, Community Relations and Fundraising. [lfruth@A4L.org](mailto:lfruth@A4L.org)

### John Lovell Technology Director

Provides the strategic technical direction of the organization in co-operation with A4L Community leaders; Responsible for fostering strong international and North American technical groups that produce the Global SIF Infrastructure and Unity line of releases; Oversees and executes management of cloud resources and participates in community programming efforts. [jlovell@A4L.org](mailto:jlovell@A4L.org)

### Penny Murray Community Director

Provides membership services, develops communications, supports member working activities including particular SIF implementations, organizational meetings, and strategic partnerships to ensure initiative success. [pmurray@A4L.org](mailto:pmurray@A4L.org)

## NEWSLETTER Issue 48

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