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DEMOCRACY
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COVID-19 and Student Privacy Training Module - Review Quiz

Based on the material covered in the "COVID-19 and Student Privacy: Do's and Dont's for State and Local Practitioners," select the best answer for each of the questions below and check yourself using the answer guide in the following pages.

Question 1.
Which of the following are important components of privacy?
- ☐ A. People's ability to control their own data
- ☐ B. Protecting students' safety and well-being by protecting their data
- ☐ C. Legal compliance
- ☐ D. All of the above

Question 2.
Whose privacy and ability to make decisions about their data is protected under FERPA?
- ☐ A. The school district's
- ☐ B. Teachers'
- ☐ C. Families'

Question 3.
How have the laws around protecting student privacy changed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- ☐ A. They are now more strict
- ☐ B. They are now less strict
- ☐ C. They have not changed

Question 4.
Which of the following are likely ***not*** examples of potentially personally identifiable information? (Select all that apply)
- ☐ A. A school announcement that a certain school has experienced a COVID 19 outbreak
- ☐ B. Photos or videos that focus on particular students
- ☐ C. General statements about class performance as a whole
- ☐ D. Grades or feedback for a particular student
- ☐ E. A statement that all absent class members have been diagnosed with COVID-19
- ☐ F. A screenshot of a video conference with students' faces and names

Question 5.
Why is it useful to repurpose existing contracts when using new vendors on short notice? (Select all that apply)
- ▫ A. Because of the urgency of the pandemic, important considerations like privacy might be missed in the rush to provide education, but existing contracts will have addressed those considerations.
- ▫ B. Repurposing is not useful. The old contract won't work for new vendors anyway.
- ▫ C. To save time, it is more efficient to start with an existing agreement rather than create or negotiate something new.
- ▫ D. Privacy laws have changed as a result of the pandemic, so the existing versions are no longer relevant.

Question 6.
Why should teachers refrain from posting screenshots of their virtual classes on social media? (Select all that apply)
- ▫ A. It is a legal violation
- ▫ B. Students may feel that their privacy was invaded
- ▫ C. There is no reason for teachers not to do this and it can help students bond

Question 7.
Which of the following problems are ***not*** solved by restricting screen-sharing to the host? (Select all that apply)
- ▫ A. Students bullying one another in the chat
- ▫ B. Students being exposed to inappropriate material on video by an uninvited participant (Zoombombing)
- ▫ C. Students disrupting the class by sharing their own screen

Question 8.
Why is it important to consider equity when employing new technology during the pandemic? (Select all that apply)
- ▫ A. The lack of alternative options for education in the current climate means that the impact of the "digital divide" or "homework gap" will be more pronounced
- ▫ B. Educators do not have to worry about equity because all educational technologies are designed to meet individual students' needs, including students with disabilities and English language learners
- ▫ C. Certain populations, like students with disabilities or English language learners, are particularly vulnerable when relying on technologies that are not equipped for their particular needs.

Question 9.
Why should schools and districts consider deletion policies for data collected during COVID-mandated distance learning?
- ▫ A. Schools may be using vendors that are less familiar with the school context, so existing vendor deletion policies may not match schools' or families' expectations
- ▫ B. There are special legal obligations during the pandemic

Question 10.

Why should schools and districts carefully consider what counts as sensitive information during the pandemic and adjust policies and tool configurations accordingly? (Select all that apply)

- ▢ A. New tools may reveal student information in unexpected ways, so it is important to re-evaluate what is sensitive and how it may be exposed by new tools
- ▢ B. HIPAA now applies to teachers, so schools need to re-evaluate for the new legal requirements
- ▢ C. Parents and students are likely unfamiliar with the new tools so may inadvertently reveal sensitive information

COVID-19 and Student Privacy Training Module - Answer Guide

Question 1.
Which of the following are important components of privacy?
- ☐ A. People's ability to control their own data
- ☐ B. Protecting students' safety and well-being by protecting their data
- ☐ C. Legal compliance
- ☒ **D. All of the above**

Correct answer: D
Protecting student privacy should be viewed holistically. Schools have legal obligations to protect students' privacy. In addition to legal compliance, however, schools have an ethical obligation to ensure that uses of technology and data do not come at the expense of student safety and well-being.

Question 2.
Whose privacy and ability to make decisions about their data is protected under FERPA?
- ☐ A. The school district's
- ☐ B. Teachers'
- ☒ **C. Families'**

Correct answer: C
Remember, privacy is the idea that people should be able to control their own information. In the case of education and the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, that right refers to students and their families.

Question 3.
How have the laws around protecting student privacy changed in light of the COVID-19 pandemic?
- ☐ A. They are now more strict
- ☐ B. They are now less strict
- ☒ **C. They have not changed**

Correct answer: C
While the usage and context of student data may have shifted due to the implications of COVID-19, privacy laws themselves have not changed. Student data and education technology should be treated with the same sensitivity as prior to the emergence of the coronavirus pandemic.

Question 4.
Which of the following are likely ***not*** examples of potentially personally identifiable information? (Select all that apply)
- ☒ **A. A school announcement that a certain school has experienced a COVID 19 outbreak**

☐   B. Photos or videos that focus on particular students

☒   **C. General statements about class performance as a whole**

☐   D. Grades or feedback for a particular student

☐   E. A statement that all absent class members have been diagnosed with COVID-19

☐   F. A screenshot of a video conference with students' faces and names

Correct answers: A and C

Personally identifiable information (PII) is any information that can be used to identify or distinguish a person, either directly or in combination with other information. In an educational context, PII refers to data that can be linked to specific students, such as individual grades or COVID-19 test results.

Question 5.

Why is it useful to repurpose existing contracts when using new vendors on short notice? (Select all that apply)

☒   **A. Because of the urgency of the pandemic, important considerations like privacy might be missed in the rush to provide education, but existing contracts will have addressed those considerations.**

☐   B. Repurposing is not useful. The old contract won't work for new vendors anyway.

☒   **C. To save time, it is more efficient to start with an existing agreement rather than create or negotiate something new.**

☐   D. Privacy laws have changed as a result of the pandemic, so the existing versions are no longer relevant.

Correct answers: A and C

COVID-19 has forced practitioners to react quickly to changing circumstances. Under this pressure, possible mistakes in reviewing new contracts and agreements can be avoided by repurposing existing contracts, which were written and approved according to the thorough due diligence processes of pre-COVID-19 education systems.

Question 6.

Why should teachers refrain from posting screenshots of their virtual classes on social media? (Select all that apply)

☒   **A. It is a legal violation**

☒   **B. Students may feel that their privacy was invaded**

☐   C. There is no reason for teachers not to do this and it can help students bond

Correct answers: A and B

Posting screenshots that contain images of students may make those students feel exposed or like their privacy has been violated. Additionally, the posting could constitute a FERPA violation.

Question 7.
Which of the following problems are ***not*** solved by restricting screen-sharing to the host? (Select all that apply)
- ☒ **A. Students bullying one another in the chat**
- ☒ **B. Students being exposed to inappropriate material on video by an uninvited participant (Zoombombing)**
- ☐ C. Students disrupting the class by sharing their own screen

Correct answers: A and B
Restricting screen-sharing on its own won't prevent students from bullying one another in the chat, and they could still be exposed to inappropriate material via an uninvited participant. Restricting capabilities should be used as part of a set of security steps, including setting a meeting password and approving participants before they can join the meeting.

Question 8.
Why is it important to consider equity when employing new technology during the pandemic? (Select all that apply)
- ☒ **A. The lack of alternative options for education in the current climate means that the impact of the "digital divide" or "homework gap" will be more pronounced**
- ☐ B. Educators do not have to worry about equity because all educational technologies are designed to meet individual students' needs, including students with disabilities and English language learners
- ☒ **C. Certain populations, like students with disabilities or English language learners, are particularly vulnerable when relying on technologies that are not equipped for their particular needs.**

Correct answers: A and C
Not all educational technologies are designed to meet every student's needs, or designed with equity in mind. Consequently, schools and teachers should consider equity when choosing and deploying technology to ensure that all students, including vulnerable populations, have the access they need, and so that issues like the digital divide and the achievement gap are not exacerbated by the new technology.

Question 9.
Why should schools and districts consider deletion policies for data collected during COVID-mandated distance learning?
- ☒ **A. Schools may be using vendors that are less familiar with the school context, so existing vendor deletion policies may not match schools' or families' expectations**
- ☐ B. There are special legal obligations during the pandemic

Correct answer: A
There are no new legal obligations during the pandemic, but existing legal and ethical obligations still apply. Schools may be using vendors that are less familiar with the

education context, so schools should take particular care to ensure those vendors' policies and practices meet the legal and ethical obligations.

Question 10.
Why should schools and districts carefully consider what counts as sensitive information during the pandemic and adjust policies and tool configurations accordingly? (Select all that apply)

- ☒ **A. New tools may reveal student information in unexpected ways, so it is important to re-evaluate what is sensitive and how it may be exposed by new tools**
- ☐ B. HIPAA now applies to teachers, so schools need to re-evaluate for the new legal requirements
- ☒ **C. Parents and students are likely unfamiliar with the new tools so may inadvertently reveal sensitive information**

Correct answers: A and C
Schools have a legal and ethical obligation to maintain students' privacy. New tools and contexts present new risks and potential unexpected data sharing. It is important to provide support and communication around applications and systems to ensure educators have the information they need to protect student privacy.