

## Five Steps to Protect Student Privacy & Support Equity in the New School Year

As schools return to in-person learning, education leaders will be developing processes for managing technology adopted during the pandemic & for handling new data to reopen schools in-person. They should consider the following steps to ensure privacy & equity are protected during this process.

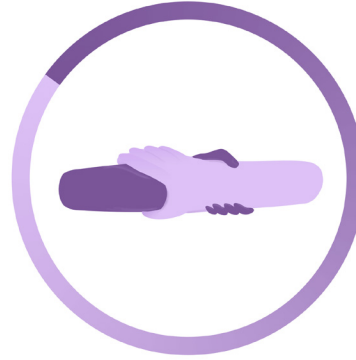
Read the full report at:  
[cdt.org/civictech](https://cdt.org/civictech)

### Develop Robust Data Governance



Education leaders should establish robust processes, structures, & policies for overseeing the overall management, availability, quality, security, & use of data & technology. Data governance is the foundation for developing & enforcing appropriate uses of data & technology & addressing other important data ethics issues.

### Engage the Community



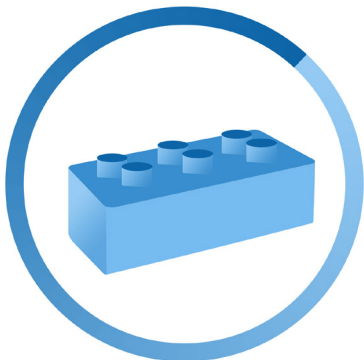
Education leaders should engage stakeholders (such as students, families, teachers, & administrators) about the use of data to inform their decision-making throughout the process of transitioning away from remote learning to connected in-person learning. Doing so has multiple benefits, including increased buy-in & trust in the use of data across the organization, the early detection of concerns, & more inclusive & robust solutions to those concerns.

### Promote Equity



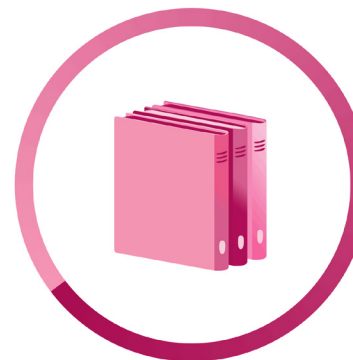
Education leaders should focus on ensuring that the data & technology used as schools reopen do not reinforce the biases & inequities present in society, while making certain that the benefits of data & technology are available equally to all students. Rooting data & technology in equity can ensure they effectively benefit individuals & improve the public good.

### Build Stakeholder Capacity and Digital Literacy



Education leaders should build technical capacity and digital literacy among all stakeholders by holding training sessions, creating guidance, and dedicating staff to support community members. Building their capacity allows stakeholders to enact and follow practices and policies that keep students safe and protect their well-being.

### Comply with Legal Rules



Schools collecting and sharing data face some legal risk and should consult with counsel to ensure compliance with federal and state privacy laws. Compliance with legal requirements can help minimize risk for schools and help ensure that data and technology are being used responsibly.