Dear D97 Staff and Families,

We are writing to inform you of a recent development related to the cybersecurity incident PowerSchool experienced in December 2024.

We are committed to promptly sharing relevant information with our community as it becomes available. We will provide additional updates via email and on our District website via this link as we receive information from PowerSchool.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to reach out to our team via Let's Talk.

Sincerely,

Michael Arensdorff
Chief Technology Officer

What Happened?

PowerSchool has shared that a threat actor has contacted multiple school district customers in an attempt to extort them using data from the previously reported December 2024 incident. PowerSchool does not believe this is a new breach, but a development related to the prior incident.

Is District 97 Impacted?

District 97 **has not** been contacted by this threat actor. However, we will continue to work closely with Powerschool to stay informed and provide any support that is needed.

As a reminder, the December breach impacted limited student and employee information. Please read our FAQ to learn more.

What's Next?

- **Monitoring Systems:** Our technology team is actively monitoring our systems, including PowerSchool and Google. At this time, we have not detected any abnormalities or unauthorized access.

- **Rotating Student Passwords**: We had a plan to rotate student passwords this summer. We are moving our timeline up due to recent developments. Stay tuned for more information.

What Should You Do?

- **Monitor Accounts:** Be on the lookout for unusual activity, such as unexpected emails or login attempts.
  As a reminder, following the previous incident, PowerSchool offered and made widely available credit monitoring and identity protection services for a period of two years to students and faculty in District 97, regardless of whether they were individually involved. We encourage all those who were offered these services to take advantage of them.

- **Stay Alert (Emails, Calls, Texts):** Avoid clicking on suspicious links or sharing personal information with unknown sources via phone calls and/or text messages

- **Stay Connected:** Keep an eye on your email and our district website via this link, which we will update as we receive more information from PowerSchool.