

HAGERMAN SCHOOL DISTRICT #233

150 Lake Street West Hagerman, ID 83332

1/9/25

## Subject: Important Information Regarding a Recent Cybersecurity Incident Involving PowerSchool

Hagerman School District Community,

We are writing to inform you about a recent cybersecurity incident involving PowerSchool, the vendor that provides our student information system (SIS). We were notified this week that PowerSchool suffered a cyber attack over the winter break that unfortunately involved a breach in our data.

As you may know, PowerSchool is a widely used platform for managing student records, including attendance, grades, and other educational information. We were recently notified by PowerSchool that they experienced a data breach when an attacker stole data from many of PowerSchool's customers across the country, including the Hagerman School District. According to their statements, the attackers may have gained unauthorized access to a subset of their systems, which included personal information. More information on the attack can be found in <u>this news article</u> and you may read about this attack in other news sources over the coming days.

## What Information Was Potentially Affected?

While the investigation is still ongoing, we understand that the following types of information may have been involved:

- Names
- Dates of birth
- Email addresses
- Phone numbers
- Student demographic information

Social Security numbers were NOT believed to be affected by this incident. Social Security numbers are not collected by Hagerman School District so this information could not have been stolen by the attackers. Additionally, based on information provided by PowerSchool, a ransom was paid and all data was deleted, no data was uploaded to the web, and the situation is contained.

## What Actions Are Being Taken?

We understand this news is concerning, and want to assure you that we are taking this matter very seriously. We are in close communication with PowerSchool and are actively monitoring the situation. We are also taking the following steps:

- **Investigation:** PowerSchool is working to understand the full scope of the incident and its impact on our district.
- **Notification:** We are committed to providing timely and transparent updates to our community as we learn more.
- Security Review: We are reviewing our own security practices and procedures to identify any areas for improvement.

## What You Can Do:

While we do not believe there is a need for immediate action, we encourage you to remain vigilant and take the following precautions:

• **Monitor your email and phone calls:** Be wary of any suspicious emails or phone calls claiming to be from PowerSchool. Do not click on links or provide personal information unless you are certain the communication is legitimate.

We understand this incident raises concerns, and we are committed to working diligently to protect the information of our students and staff. We appreciate your understanding and cooperation as we navigate this situation.

Respectfully,

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