

QUICK GUIDE:

Enhancing School Health through Data Collaborations

Benefits of Data-Sharing Collaborations for Schools

Data-sharing partnerships between schools and partners provide a variety of benefits for schools, including the following:

-  **ENHANCED STUDENT HEALTH OUTCOMES**
-  **IMPROVED STUDENT ACADEMIC SUCCESS**
-  **STRENGTHENED COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT & PARTNERSHIPS**
-  **ENHANCED DECISION-MAKING**
-  **INCREASED FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES**

Navigating Challenges to Data-Sharing Collaborations

Every opportunity has challenges. Here are some potential strategies to navigate common barriers to successful data-sharing:

BARRIER	STRATEGY
PRIVACY CONCERNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Implement robust privacy measures✓ Foster trust with stakeholders through transparent communications
DATA OWNERSHIP CONCERNS	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Establish clear written agreements
SYSTEMS INTEROPERABILITY ISSUES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Advocate for standardization and promote interoperable data standards
LACK OF PROFESSIONAL CAPACITY	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Leverage targeted funding✓ Invest in training and upskilling✓ Adopt user-friendly data systems to simplify processes
LIMITED LEGAL UNDERSTANDING	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Engage with external specialists✓ Develop standardized data-sharing agreements
“WE’VE ALWAYS DONE IT THIS WAY” MINDSET	<ul style="list-style-type: none">✓ Communicate tangible benefits and share successful cases

Decision-Making Process and Key Questions to Ask

1 ▶ Define the Purpose

- What is the purpose of data-sharing?
- How does it support the desired student outcomes?

2 ▶ Identify the Parties

- Who are the parties involved?
- Are there conflicts of interests?
- Do all parties have the technological and policy resources for security and access controls?

3 ▶ Understand the Data

- What specific types of data elements are involved?
- Do they involve personally identifiable information (PII)?

4 ▶ Research Applicable Laws

- Which laws apply? FERPA, HIPAA, state-specific laws?

5 ▶ Weigh Benefits & Assess Risks

- How does it benefit students?
- How does it benefit the schools?
- What potential risks or harm might occur from sharing data?

6 ▶ Determine Cost & Resources Needed

- What are the financial costs to the district?
- What are the resources needed?

7 ▶ Determine the Type of Agreement

- What kind of agreement(s) is needed (DSA vs MOU)?



LEARN MORE

To learn more about establishing successful data-sharing collaborations, please refer to our comprehensive report and interactive module.



CONTACT US

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