

COMMUNITY INFORMATION BULLETIN

Update: PowerSchool Cybersecurity Incident

January 20, 2025

We are writing to provide another update on the cyber incident involving PowerSchool's Student Information System – the application used by Dufferin-Peel Catholic District School Board (DPCDSB) and many school boards across North America to store certain student and staff information.

This incident has affected current and former students and staff. Please note that we have also posted this notice on our website to notify DPCDSB's former students and staff who may be affected.

What Happened?

On January 7, PowerSchool informed DPCDSB and other school boards, both nationally and internationally, that it had experienced a cyber incident, and that this incident affected DPCDSB. Since then, we have been working with PowerSchool and internal and external experts to determine the precise information that was affected.

PowerSchool has reported that it received confirmation that the data acquired by the unauthorized user was deleted and that the data was not posted online. Nevertheless, DPCDSB continues to take this incident very seriously, and is working with PowerSchool to ensure an incident like this does not happen again in the future.

What Information Was Affected?

We have worked with PowerSchool to determine that the following information was affected:

For students enrolled at DPCDSB from September 2, 2003 through December 28, 2024, the following categories were affected:

- Name
- Date of birth
- Parent and student contact information
- For a very limited number of students, if you provided information to your child's school about your child's allergies, medical conditions or injuries when completing start of school year forms, this information was included.

For teachers, administrators, school office staff, superintendents and department staff who have access to the PowerSchool system who worked at DPCDSB from September 1, 2022 through December 28, 2024, affected data includes:

- Name
- School address
- For a limited number of individuals: Home addresses

Staff who do not have access to the PowerSchool student information system were not affected by this cyber incident.

This incident did not result in the compromise of any of the following information:

- Medical information provided to members of DPCDSB’s Support Services team, e.g., Psychologists, Occupational Therapists, Physiotherapists, Audiologists, Speech-Language Pathologists, and Social Workers
- Financial information
- Social insurance numbers (SIN)
- Student IEP information

DPCDSB has notified and is working with the Ontario Information and Privacy Commissioner in responding to this incident. While you are entitled to file a complaint, the IPC has advised that it is not necessary as they are already investigating the matter. You can visit the [IPC’s website](#).

Where Can I Find the Latest Information?

We will continue to provide additional updates as we receive them. FAQ’s can be found below, as well as on the [DPCDSB website](#), and we will continue to update the FAQs with any new or relevant information. You can also view an FAQ from PowerSchool [here](#).

We also recognize that you may have questions about what has occurred. Should you have any questions, please email cyberincident@dpcdsb.org

We appreciate your patience and understanding, and sincerely regret any concern this has caused you.

Dr. Marianne Mazzorato, Ed.D.
Director of Education