

CITYWIDE DISTRICT 75 COUNCIL

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Resolution-Protect Students Privacy

WHEREAS, New York State and NYC Department of Education have agreed to share confidential student and teacher data with the Gates Foundation's recently created non-profit corporation inBloom Inc.;

WHEREAS, this confidential data will include highly sensitive information, such as name, address, grades, test scores, disciplinary records, attendance, race, ethnicity, economic status, disabilities and health conditions;

WHEREAS. the confidential student data collected will be stowed in an electronic "data store" designed by Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation's subsidiary Wireless Generation;

WHEREAS, Rupert Murdoch's News Corporation has been investigated for violating the privacy of individuals both here in the United States and in Great Britain;

WHEREAS, the Gates Foundation has stated that inBloom Inc., will be financially sustainable and independent of philanthropic support by 2016;

WHEREAS, the information gathered by inBloom Inc. will be placed on a cloud run by Amazon.com:

WHEREAS, 86% of technology professionals recently surveyed said they did not trust clouds to hold their organization's most sensitive data;

WHEREAS, inBloom Inc. has already stated that it "cannot guarantee the security of the information stored...or that the information will not be intercepted when it is being transmitted."

WHEREAS, inBloom Inc. intends to make this highly confidential data available to commercial vendors to help them develop and market their "learning products";

Whereas New York State and NYC Department of Education failed to notify parents and to request parental consent prior to disclosing student data;.

WHEREAS, Assembly member O'Donnell has introduced a bill, A6059, that would require parental notification and consent before any confidential, personally identifiable student data is disclosed to third party vendors;

BE IT RESOLVED: that NYS Education Department & NYC DOE should immediately be obligated to:

1. Notify parents of these impending disclosures and provide them with the right to consent before their child's information is shared;

- 2. Hold public hearings to explain and clarify the purpose of these disclosures, hear the concerns of parents & privacy experts in terms of how this endeavor will place the privacy, security and safety of our children at risk;
- 3. Determine who would be liable in the event that children are harmed by the improper use or accidental release of this information. Explanations should also be provided to families on how they can obtain relief in the event of a misuse of this information;
- 4. Pledge that the privacy rights of public school children and their families will be respected over the interests of the Gates Foundation, inBloom Inc., News Corp, or any other company or organization.

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED: that the Citywide District 75 Council strongly encourages state and local elected representatives to support, co-sponsor and endorse A6059, so that our children's privacy is protected and parents are provided with full notification and the right to consent before any disclosures occur.

(Presidents Name)

(Witness Signature)

(Date)

(Date)