



# SCHOOL DISTRICT OF AMERY

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School District of Amery staff and families,

On January 7, 2025, the School District of Amery was informed of a cybersecurity incident involving unauthorized access to certain information within PowerSchool, our Student Information System (SIS). This breach originated with PowerSchool and impacted school districts nationwide. The breach was not due to vulnerabilities in our district's systems.

The data has not been made public. According to PowerSchool, the data involved was deleted by the threat actor as part of their interactions with the company.

## **What Happened?**

A threat actor gained access to the SIS data by a third-party vendor hosting PowerSchool through compromised credentials. PowerSchool responded immediately by implementing their cybersecurity protocols, retaining third-party cybersecurity experts, and notifying the FBI.

Upon learning about this incident Tuesday afternoon, the School District of Amery immediately activated our own cybersecurity response plan. We have been collaborating with PowerSchool and our third-party cyber security insurers to fully assess the scope of the breach and identify the information involved.

## **Impact of the Incident**

The following information was accessed during the breach:

- Student Information dating back to 2008: Names, addresses, birthdates, emergency contacts, some social security numbers of former students, guardian phone numbers, and some individual emergency contacts.
- Staff Information dating back to 2008: Names, a handful of social security numbers of former staff, district email addresses, and district phone numbers.
- It is important to note that no financial information is held in PowerSchool, therefore no financial information was accessed.

## **Next Steps**

Our team is actively working with PowerSchool, monitoring our data, and coordinating with other affected school districts to gather insights and to ensure our systems are secure into the future.

There is no evidence that the accessed data has been shared or misused, and families do not need to take any action. If this changes, we will notify you promptly.

Protecting our staff, students, and families is something we take seriously. With PowerSchool's help, more information and resources (including credit monitoring or identity protection services if applicable) will be provided if necessary. If you have questions or concerns, please contact the district office at 715-268-9771 ext. 272.

Sincerely,

Dr. Shawn Doerfler, District Administrator