

Superintendent of Schools

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buchananschools.com

Our vision is to develop responsible, resilient, creative citizens capable of succeeding in a global society.

January 9, 2025

RE: PowerSchool Cybersecurity Incident

Dear Parents, Guardians, and Staff,

Earlier this week, school districts across the country received a notification from our Student Information System vendor, PowerSchool, about a potential cybersecurity incident. It was later confirmed that a majority of PowerSchool's thousands of educational clients across the world were impacted. The breach is not attributable to any actions or omissions by any specific school district.

What Happened?

On December 28th, PowerSchool was made aware of a potential cybersecurity incident and immediately took action to contain the issue. They conducted an investigation and determined that an unauthorized party gained access to certain PowerSchool Student Information System data using a compromised credential. PowerSchool has addressed the vulnerability that was exploited and is implementing additional security measures to limit future threats. They have also assured that the breach has been contained and they do not anticipate any further misuse of the data.

It is important to note that Buchanan Community Schools does not collect or store student social security information.

What Happens Next?

Our Technology team is working closely with PowerSchool staff to review the incident and how it may have impacted our district. If we learn that specific staff or student data was compromised, we will follow up with the impacted individual(s) directly about the next steps.

As always, our top priority is to ensure the safety and security of our students and staff. Even though we have no information at this time that specific personal information has been misused, we wanted to let you know this happened and assure you we take it very seriously. We will share further updates as relevant information becomes available.

Please email questions regarding this incident to schoolinfo@buchananschools.com. Sincerely,

Patricia Robinson Superintendent