

Notice of Data Security Incident

Union Community School District (“The District”) is notifying individuals whose sensitive, personal information may have been involved in a recent cybersecurity incident.

On April 7, 2021, we were the victim of a cyberattack from an unauthorized individual that resulted in systems and servers being inoperable for a limited time. After discovering the attack, we quickly took steps to secure our systems and restore operations. At that time, no facts were indicating that any information was obtained. However, on April 21, 2021, we learned that the unauthorized individual obtained some information from our systems during the incident. Once we learned about this, we immediately engaged third-party forensic experts to conduct a thorough investigation of the incident's nature and scope and contacted the FBI to seek assistance and guidance.

On June 3, 2021, we learned that the unauthorized party obtained and released additional documents that contained personal information. At that time, we began a comprehensive review and examination of the documents and only recently discovered that certain personal information of some current and former students was included in these documents. There currently is no indication that this information has been misused.

While we are not aware of any fraud or identity theft related to the incident, the District has sent written notification to the individuals whose personal information was included in the involved documents. Affected individuals should refer to the notice they will receive in the mail regarding steps to protect themselves. As described in those letters, the District has arranged for complimentary identity theft protection services for those individuals whose names and Social Security numbers were involved in the incident.

As a precautionary measure, individuals should promptly report any fraudulent activity or suspected identity theft to proper law enforcement authorities, including the police and their state’s attorney general. Affected individuals may also wish to review the tips provided by the Federal Trade Commission (“FTC”) on fraud alerts, security/credit freezes, and steps that they can take to avoid identity theft. For more information and contact the FTC, individuals can visit www.ftc.gov/idtheft or call 1-877-ID-THEFT (1-877-438-4338). Affected individuals may also contact the FTC at Federal Trade Commission, 600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20580. This notification was not delayed due to a law enforcement investigation.

Contact information for the three national credit reporting agencies is as follows:

Equifax
1-800-349-9960
www.equifax.com
P.O. Box 105788
Atlanta, GA 30348

Experian
1-888-397-3742
www.experian.com
P.O. Box 9554
Allen, TX 75013

TransUnion
1-800-888-4213
www.transunion.com
P.O. Box 1000
Chester, PA 19016

The security and privacy of the information contained within our systems is a top priority for us. In response to this incident, we implemented additional safeguards and employee training related to cybersecurity. Further, we are working with our external legal and cybersecurity experts to improve our cybersecurity policies, procedures, and protocols to attempt to help minimize the likelihood of this type of incident from occurring again.

Individuals with questions can contact a dedicated, toll-free call center available at 800-378-5619, Monday through Friday, between 8:00 a.m. and 5:30 p.m. Central Time.