Data Security and Data Privacy

- Data security and privacy are critical in K-12 education as the use of data systems and online service providers continues to increase.
- Privacy and security are not the same thing. Security can be thought of as what we do to protect data, while privacy is what we do to protect individuals.
- We must think about what is acceptable, versus what is legal and ethical.

Whose privacy and what data must we protect?

School districts manage large amounts of data for instructional and operational purposes. We must protect data on students, teachers, and principals, as addressed by New York State Education Law 2-d.

What are the challenges?

- New Technology = New Privacy Threats
- Laws lag technology
- Data is very valuable
- Privacy is PERSONAL

What are the concerns?

- Commercial use of data
- Need to Know access to data
- Digital footprints
- Security breaches

Key Points from School Privacy Zone Summit (2014)

- Schools need data to do business, but with a commitment to privacy.
- Data should be used only for educational purposes.
- School systems and technology providers need policies on handling data.
- Priorities and communication are key.
- Federal laws include FERPA, PPRA, COPPA.
- State and local laws may apply.
- The field of security and privacy is developing rapidly.