IDOE
LINK Initiative

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Working Together for Student Success

Background

- The Indiana Department of Education (IDOE) recently announced the LINK Initiative, an IDOE effort to leverage information technology to advance the vision and mission of the Indiana Department of Education.

- IDOE evaluated the system portfolio and identified candidates for modernization and enhancement, selecting five main areas.

- The LINK Initiative is the name for the multi-year effort involving five component projects aimed at improving customer experience and support for schools.

- These projects build on the foundation of system consolidation and infrastructure modernization completed in 2017.

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IDOE LINK Initiative: System Modernization

INtelligrants*: The purpose of this project will be to improve the processing of the State and Federal funding streams.

Data Exchange: The purpose of this project will be to improve the process of data transfer and certification for student and educator level data submitted by schools and school corporations.

INview: The purpose of this project will be to improve access to IDOE data and resources.

Unified Access: The purpose of this project will be to establish and implement the foundational technical elements which will support the remaining projects.

Schools 360: The purpose of this project will be to implement a tool to improve the capacity of internal staff to support customers.

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schools 360

The Schools 360 project will implement Microsoft Dynamics 365 within the IDOE to improve the capacity of internal staff to support customers.

What IDOE is doing…
- Organize IDOE work around schools and school corporations
- Track contact with the schools and school corporations
- Access IDOE wide data including master school information
- Access business area specific information
- Establish workflows for completing business area functions
- Create dashboards and task lists to drive daily activity

What that means for schools…
- Improved support with collaborative response
- Possible new electronic submission of some forms

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UNIFIED ACCESS

The Unified Access project will implement processes, policies and technologies to accomplish the key objectives of the LINK initiative.

What IDOE is doing…
- Streamlining identity, user and access management
- Unifying point of entry for IDOE solutions
- Revising Master Data Management
- Adopting data standards
- Adopting user interface and user experience standards
- Reviewing and revising infrastructure policies

What that means for schools…
- Fewer usernames and passwords
- Consolidated on-board/off-board process for access to systems
- More robust master data management aligned to the Ed-Fi Data Standards
- New site to access all IDOE systems

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INtelligrant$ Funding Management

The INtelligrants project will implement a consistent platform to manage the full cycle of State and Federal funding streams.

What IDOE is doing…
- Unify processes and systems for managing the lifecycle of funding streams
- Improve communication regarding grant opportunities and timelines
- Create dashboards to track funding streams

What that means for schools…
- New solution for the full grant lifecycle, from application through final reporting.
- Includes State and Federal funding; competitive and formula

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INView — Indiana School Data Access

The INview project will implement technologies to improve data access, transparency and collaboration. Components will include publicly and securely available data sets and dashboards.

What IDOE is doing…
- Enriching access and visualization of publically available data
- Upgrading dashboards for school and school corporation to access record level data

What that means for schools…
- New public data transparency portal meeting ESSA requirements
- New dashboards will be available to schools for accessing student-level data and reports previously available in the Learning Connection

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DATA EXCHANGE

The Data Exchange project will implement a solution to improve the transfer and certification of student and educator level data between the IDOE and education entities.

What IDOE is doing…
- Implementing Ed-Fi Data Standards and Technology Suite
- Improving data transfer methods
- Updating the process for data review and certification
- Implementing SIS vendor certification protocols
- Addressing non-SIS bulk data submissions
- Transitioning to robust business rule management
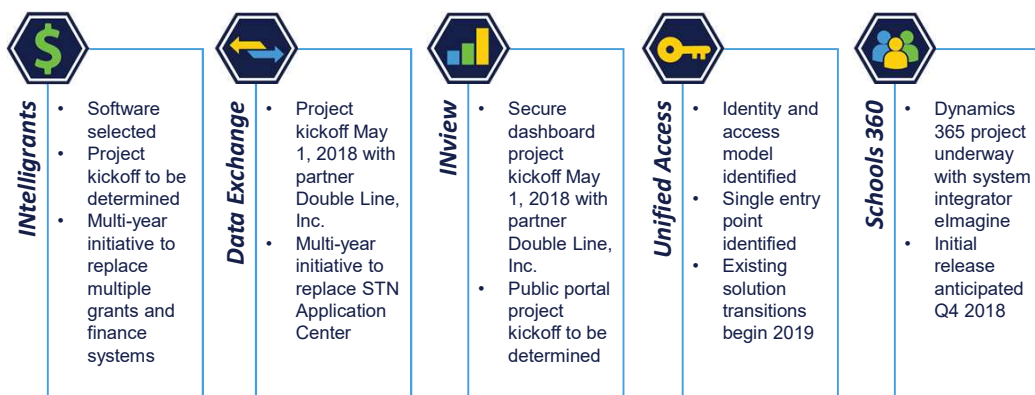
What that means for schools…
- New process for schools to submit data through interoperable data exchange
- New portal for review and approval of data
- New process for SIS vendor to certify

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IDOE LINK Initiative: Status and Timelines

INtelligrants
- Software selected
- Project kickoff to be determined
- Multi-year initiative to replace multiple grants and finance systems

Data Exchange
- Project kickoff May 1, 2018 with partner Double Line, Inc.
- Multi-year initiative to replace STN Application Center

INview
- Secure dashboard project kickoff May 1, 2018 with partner Double Line, Inc.
- Public portal project kickoff to be determined

Unified Access
- Identity and access model identified
- Single entry point identified
- Existing solution transitions begin 2019

Schools 360
- Dynamics 365 project underway with system integrator eImagine
- Initial release anticipated Q4 2018

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IDOE LINK Initiative: Next Steps

- **Spread the Message**
  - IDOE will be working with stakeholders to ensure questions are answered and concerns addressed.
  - Stakeholder support is being planned now and will be publicized on the LINK News and Events page at https://www.doe.in.gov/link/link-news-events.
  - Key sessions:
    - May 9, 2018 11 am EDT   *Ed-Fi 101 Webinar*
    - May 16, 2018 2 pm EDT   *LINK Initiative: SIS Vendor Webinar*

- **Project Kickoffs**

- **Development and Implementation Plans**
  - Timelines for implementation phases, testing, training, etc.

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Questions?