

In accordance with State Education Law 2-d we are required to notify you when a third-party contractor that receives student data or teacher or principal data pursuant to a contract or written agreement with us had an unauthorized release of such data. Illuminate Education, an educational software company whose products are used in Hebrew Public, has informed us that some databases containing potentially protected student information were subject to unauthorized access between December 28, 2021, and January 8, 2022. The Illuminate Education product used by Hebrew Public Schools is Illuminate DnA.

On January 8, 2022, Illuminate became aware of suspicious activity in certain of its applications. Illuminate immediately took steps to secure the affected applications and launched an investigation with external forensic specialists to determine the nature and scope of the activity. Illuminate also contacted the FBI. On March 24, 2022, Illuminate confirmed through its investigation that between December 28, 2021 and January 8, 2022, certain of Illuminate's databases that contained potentially protected student information were subject to unauthorized access.

When it discovered this incident, it immediately reset passwords for the affected applications. It began an investigation with the help of third-party forensic specialists to ensure the security of its systems and determine what data was affected. It reviewed its data security policies and procedures and implemented additional security measures to protect the security of information in its possession.

According to Illuminate Education the affected databases included names, demographic and assessment information. It did not include term grades, attendance, or state test results. The data accessed pertains to the following school years: 2018-2021.

Student privacy is of the utmost importance to Hebrew Public and we are therefore monitoring this incident closely and will keep you apprised if there are changes to the situation.

