

## SECTION V.

# Talking to teachers, schools, and districts about student privacy

You don't have to be an expert on privacy law or district policies to raise concerns about student privacy. Simply schedule an appointment with your child's teacher or principal and ask some questions to help open the lines of communication. Here are some suggested questions; you do not need to ask them all. You can also follow up with some of the additional questions in Appendix D.

- **APPROXIMATELY HOW MANY HOURS PER DAY** will my child be expected to use an electronic device, including computers, laptops, tablets, and/or smartphones?
- **WHAT ONLINE PROGRAMS** and classroom applications (apps) will my child be assigned to use in class this year?
- **HAVE THESE PROGRAMS** and apps been vetted for data privacy, security, and compliance with state and federal privacy laws?
- **WHAT DATA IS COLLECTED** about my child by the school, its contractors, and any vendors, or operators of online programs and apps used in classrooms?
- **WHICH OF THIS DATA** is being sent to the state department of education?
- **ARE THE VENDORS** supplying these programs barred from using the data for marketing purposes and sharing it with other third parties, and/or subjecting my child to ads?
- **HOW CAN I ACCESS** the data for my child collected and stored by the vendor or operator, the school, the district, or the state? (See Section II for more information on your rights to access this information under federal law.)
- **WHO ON THE SCHOOL STAFF** and among school contractors, vendors, or operators has access to my child's data?
- **WHAT IS THE POLICY**, if any, governing who may access my child's data and under what circumstances?
- **HOW IS MY CHILD'S DATA** protected against security breaches?
- **HOW LONG** do the school, contractors, or vendors or operators of online programs and classroom apps retain my child's data?
- **WHAT DATA** does the school or device provider (e.g., Microsoft, Apple, Google, etc.) have access to when my child is using a school-provided device? For example, can the school or device provider access:
  - location information;
  - IP addresses;
  - camera and microphone;
  - browsing history;
  - locally stored content;
  - contacts; or
  - anything else not explicitly provided to the school by my child?
- **DOES THE SCHOOL** offer a way for families to opt out of or minimize the amount of data collected by the school or any online programs/classroom apps used in class?
- **WHO ELSE** can I ask if you can't answer my questions?

These suggestions are adapted from the WICKR Foundation at [www.wickr.org/expiration-date-for-kids-data/](http://www.wickr.org/expiration-date-for-kids-data/)

**Questions?** Visit [www.studentprivacymatters.org/toolkit](http://www.studentprivacymatters.org/toolkit) for more information, including free webinars on how to use the resources in this toolkit.