What is student data?

There are many types of data that support student learning—and they’re so much more than test scores. But individual data points don’t give the full picture needed to support the incredibly important education goals of parents, students, educators, and policymakers. See the types of data that can come together—under requirements like privacy and security—to form a full picture of student learning. When used effectively, data empowers everyone.

**TYPES OF DATA**

- ACADEMIC INFORMATION
- TESTING
- DEMOGRAPHICS
- ACTIONS
- BY TEACHERS
- BY STUDENTS

**REQUIREMENTS**

To get that full, clear picture, important requirements must be met for information to be truly useful and to empower people:

- AVAILABLE: Data must be there when you need it.
- COMPLETE: It must provide a whole picture of student learning.
- RELEVANT: Data must be relevant to your needs.
- SECURE: It has to be safeguarded and trustworthy.
- EFFECTIVE: Educators and policymakers must have the skills to use data effectively.
- COMMUNICATE: Data must be used to communicate how students and schools are doing.
- SUPPORT: It should be used to support leaders and educators.
- IMPROVE: And data should be used to improve learning.

**SUCCESS**

The right data, in the right format, used the right way, empowers everyone with the information they need to make decisions and take actions that lead to student achievement.

Student success depends on parents who support their kids’ academic growth at home.

Student success also depends on teachers to design effective instruction and individualized lessons.

And student success depends on policymakers to allocate resources and craft important laws.

Every student’s success depends on all of this coming together. And that’s the real power of data.

When students, parents, educators, and policymakers have the right information to guide their decisions, students achieve their best.