

Dear Washoe County School District Family,

I hope you are having a productive week. I have two important updates to share with you.

I am very pleased to announce that after a very competitive and inclusive interview process, WCSD has selected Ms. Jennifer Van Tress to serve as our new Area Superintendent over Special Education and one vertical of schools.

As you may know, Ms. Van Tress is the current principal of Van Gorder Elementary School. She has also served as a Special Education Area Administrator, assistant principal, and Speech Pathologist. She comes with a wide breadth of knowledge and background in the area of Special Education, including law, IEP implementation, and related services.

As I mentioned a few weeks ago, all of Special Education, including both Executive Directors, Matt Burak and David Frydman, will now report to the Office of School Leadership. As I have previously communicated, I believe this change will help to unify, streamline our organization, and bring more support to our schools.

On a separate matter, it's also important to share with you that recently a contractor used by our District notified us that it experienced a data security incident. An older version of Pearson Clinical Assessment's program – AIMSweb—is involved in the incident. Our District is notifying families and individuals of this incident out of an abundance of caution so they are aware of this potential release of information.

Please know that first and last student names and some birthdates were exposed during this incident. Further identifying information was not revealed and has not been compromised. This incident impacts about 114,000 students enrolled at WCSD between 2001 and 2016.

A small number of staff members who used AIMSweb at work during 2001 and 2016 could be affected, however the information exposed was a majority of email addresses that are no longer in use by the District. I would recommend that all staff who used AIMSweb during that time frame to act on the assumption that their information may have been included. Pearson is offering access to credit monitoring services for individuals who may be impacted.

Please know that our Information Security team is working closely with this contractor to remedy this incident and to take all necessary precautions in the future.

Please review [this webpage](#) to find more information on our letter to families, the [letter from Pearson to the District](#) informing us of the incident, and Frequently Asked Questions.

Take care,

Kristen

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