Who is CPSI?

We were founded in 1990 with the idea that technology could be used to help students if it was easier to manage and use. We are truly committed to the K-12 education world by only working in the K-12 sector.

We offer products that help in nearly every aspect of data integration. Our products center around the idea that there is valuable data locked away in your SIS and HR systems that is essential to the rest of the apps used by your district. Our tools collect and combine data into an easy to use data store that can automatically send data to nearly any app as well as Active Directory.

https://privacy.A4L.org

Oklahoma State Department of Education

- 750,000 Students
- Customer Since 2007
- Oklahoma

Orange County Public Schools

- 225,000 Students
- 40,000+ Teachers
- Customer Since 2000
- Orlando, FL

Oklahoma City Public Schools

- 47,000 Students
- 8,000+ Teachers
- Customer Since 2005
- Oklahoma City, OK

Wyoming Department of Education

- 94,800+ Students
- 7,000+ Teachers
- Customer Since 2017
- Wyoming

Data Privacy and Active Directory

- ▶ What problems exist with Active Directory regarding data privacy?

- ▶ How can we use tools like xdAD from CPSI to "fix" the issues so we can ensure our students' data stays safe?

- ▶ How does automation play a role in Active Directory and data privacy?

- ▶ What are some common practices in education organizations that can lead to data privacy issues within Active Directory?

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Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Manual account creation/management/deletion can lead to users having access to data they legally should not have access to.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Connecting to the SIS/HR is done via a secure and real time connection via the SIF framework. CPSI supports all versions of the SIF framework within xdAD.

▶ xdAD is designed to allow districts/states to automate account management when SIF is not available with the vendor utilizing our Publishing Connectors and create a scheduled data move any number of times a day.

▶ By connecting the data to the SIS and/or HR system, the data is moved without the need for human interaction.

▶ xdAD ensures students and staff are automatically created and placed in their correct OU and security groups based on templates you control. These templates can vary and be different for different groups of users.

▶ As students/staff move grades, leave or enter the district, or change other PII information – Active directory is automatically updated in a timely manner.

▶ The combination of xdAD's ability to connect to the SIS and HR system and ability to keep AD up to date in a timely manner means your district/state is ensuring student data privacy.

Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Sharing accounts or using generic accounts happens because manual entry is too difficult and time consuming.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Many districts do not have the staff or means available to ensure every user has an account. This problem is often times solved by using generic accounts for younger children or certain user groups.

▶ Using generic accounts offers no way to audit what each user has done and can lead to big problems in data privacy.

▶ xdAD can automatically create/manage/delete users easily with different settings, in different OUs, and different security groups. This makes it easy to ensure every user – from Pre-K to 12 and beyond – can have their own logins.

▶ External users – such as contractors – can also be managed easily with xdAD.

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Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Using a formula for hard set passwords leads to password guessing. Students/staff logging into other's user accounts causes security issues.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Students and staff need to reset their passwords relatively often. This leads to a lot of strain on the IT department when users cannot reset their own passwords.

▶ Many districts get around this issue by never allowing users to reset their own passwords and using password "formulas".

▶ Password formulas do not follow good data privacy practices as this is easily guessable. In addition, once one password is breached – all passwords are breached.

▶ xdAD offers an easy to use Self Service Password reset portal that can be configured for students and/or staff. This takes the strain off of IT staff while ensuring data privacy needs are met.

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Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Incorrect AD accounts cause problems with apps that authenticate against AD because users see things they should not.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Many apps used in school districts authenticate against Active Directory. When Active Directory is out of date – so are these apps.

▶ This can lead to users seeing the wrong information in critical resources that hold student PII data.

▶ xdAD automates the management of all user accounts – ensuring the apps connected to Active Directory are able to authenticate with true and up to date information about a user.

Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Keeping AD up to date and in compliance with state laws as well as federal laws – such as FERPA – is incredibly difficult and time consuming. We also need to keep track of AUP signing.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Districts are required to comply with numerous state laws and federal laws surrounding data privacy – including FERPA.

▶ This means ensuring that your students and staff accounts are always accurate and users see only the data they are allowed to see according to state and federal laws.

▶ You also need to keep track of Acceptable Use Policies for students and staff in your district .

▶ xdAD offers a digital Acceptable Use Policy that is part of our Self Service toolset. This allows you to ensure that students and staff cannot use the network until they have signed the AUP. This also gives full audit of who has signed and when.

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Student Data Privacy Consortium

Problem: Data hosted off-site is out of control of the district/state and adds additional security breach possibilities and data privacy issues.

How does xdAD solve this:

▶ Where your data is located has become a big issue. When your data is hosted offsite – you may not always be aware of who can access that data.

▶ xdAD is designed to be self hosted by the district/state. This means you control where the data is stored and who is allowed to see that data at all times.

▶ xdAD supports virtual machine environments as well as cloud environments owned/used by districts.

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Student Data Privacy Consortium

Q&A

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