



18653

[DATE]



Dear [REDACTED]:

Puget Sound Educational Service District ("PSESD") writes to notify you of an incident that may affect the privacy of your personal information. While we have no reports of fraud or misuse of your information, we are providing you with notice of the event, the steps we are taking in response, and additional steps you can take, should you feel it is appropriate to do so.

We take this incident and the security of personal information entrusted in our care very seriously. Upon discovery of the unusual activity, we immediately took portions of our network offline and commenced an investigation that included working with computer forensic specialists to understand the nature and scope of the event. While we have received no reports that any accessible information was subject to actual or attempted misuse, we are providing you with the below resources that you may take advantage of, should you feel it appropriate to do so. We also continue to evaluate ways to improve our existing protections to secure the information within our network.

Although we are unaware of any actual or attempted misuse of your personal information as a result of this incident, we are offering you access to twenty-four (24) months of complimentary credit monitoring, fraud consultation, and identity theft restoration services through Epiq. In addition, we have provided notice to appropriate regulatory authorities.

As a safeguard, we have arranged for you to enroll, at no cost to you, in an online credit monitoring service (*myTrueIdentity*) for two years provided by TransUnion Interactive, a subsidiary of TransUnion,® one of the three nationwide credit reporting companies.

**How to Enroll: You can sign up online or via U.S. mail delivery**

- To enroll in this service, go to the *myTrueIdentity* website at [www.MyTrueIdentity.com](http://www.MyTrueIdentity.com) and, in the space referenced as "Enter Activation Code," enter the 12-letter Activation Code [REDACTED] and follow the three steps to receive your credit monitoring service online within minutes.
- If you do not have access to the Internet and wish to enroll in a similar offline, paper-based credit monitoring service, via U.S. mail delivery, please call the TransUnion Fraud Response Services toll-free hotline at 1-855-288-5422. When prompted, enter the six-digit telephone passcode 698858 and follow the steps to enroll in the offline credit monitoring service, add an initial fraud alert to your credit file, or to speak to a TransUnion representative if you believe you may be a victim of identity theft.

You can sign up for the online or offline credit monitoring service anytime between now and **April 30, 2021**. Due to privacy laws, we cannot register you directly. Please note that credit monitoring services might not be available for individuals who do not have a credit file with TransUnion or an address in the United States (or its territories) and a valid Social Security number. Enrolling in this service will not affect your credit score.

## **ADDITIONAL DETAILS REGARDING YOUR 24-MONTH COMPLIMENTARY CREDIT MONITORING SERVICE:**

- Once you are enrolled, you will be able to obtain two years of unlimited access to your TransUnion credit report and credit score.
- The daily credit monitoring service will notify you if there are any critical changes to your credit file at TransUnion, including fraud alerts, new inquiries, new accounts, new public records, late payments, changes of address, and more.
- The service also includes access to an identity restoration program that provides assistance in the event that your identity is compromised and up to \$1,000,000 in identity theft insurance with no deductible. (Policy limitations and exclusions may apply.)

We encourage you to remain vigilant against incidents of identity theft, to review your account statements, and to monitor your credit reports for suspicious activity and to detect errors. Under U.S. law you are entitled to one free credit report annually from each of the three major credit reporting bureaus. To order your free credit report, visit [www.annualcreditreport.com](http://www.annualcreditreport.com) or call, toll-free, 1-877-322-8228. You may also contact the three major credit bureaus directly to request a free copy of your credit report.

You have the right to place a "security freeze" on your credit report, which will prohibit a consumer reporting agency from releasing information in your credit report without your express authorization. The security freeze is designed to prevent credit, loans, and services from being approved in your name without your consent. However, you should be aware that using a security freeze to take control over who gets access to the personal and financial information in your credit report may delay, interfere with, or prohibit the timely approval of any subsequent request or application you make regarding a new loan, credit, mortgage, or any other account involving the extension of credit. Pursuant to federal law, you cannot be charged to place or lift a security freeze on your credit report. Should you wish to place a security freeze, please contact the major consumer reporting agencies listed below:

### **Experian**

PO Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742

[www.experian.com/freeze/center.html](http://www.experian.com/freeze/center.html)

### **TransUnion**

P.O. Box 160  
Woodlyn, PA 19094  
1-888-909-8872

[www.transunion.com/credit-freeze](http://www.transunion.com/credit-freeze)

### **Equifax**

PO Box 105788  
Atlanta, GA 30348-5788  
1-800-685-1111

[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

In order to request a security freeze, you will need to provide the following information:

1. Your full name (including middle initial as well as Jr., Sr., II, III, etc.);
2. Social Security number;
3. Date of birth;
4. If you have moved in the past five (5) years, the addresses where you have lived over the prior five years;
5. Proof of current address, such as a current utility bill or telephone bill;
6. A legible photocopy of a government-issued identification card (state driver's license or ID card, military identification, etc.);
7. If you are a victim of identity theft, a copy of either the police report, investigative report, or complaint to a law enforcement agency concerning identity theft;

The credit reporting agencies have one (1) to three (3) business days after receiving your request to place a security freeze on your credit file report, based upon the method of the request. The credit bureaus must also send written confirmation to you within five (5) business days and provide you with the process by which you may remove the security freeze, including an authentication mechanism. Upon receiving a direct request from you to remove a security freeze and upon receiving proper identification from you, the consumer reporting agency shall remove a security freeze within one (1) hour after receiving the request by telephone for removal or within three (3) business days after receiving the request by mail for removal.

As an alternative to a security freeze, you have the right to place an initial or extended "fraud alert" on your file at no cost. An initial fraud alert is a 1-year alert that is placed on a consumer's credit file. Upon seeing a fraud alert display on a consumer's credit file, a business is required to take steps to verify the consumer's identity before extending new credit. If you are a victim of identity theft, you are entitled to an extended fraud alert, which is a fraud alert lasting seven years. Should you wish to place a fraud alert, please contact any one of the agencies listed below:

**Experian**

P.O. Box 9554  
Allen, TX 75013  
1-888-397-3742  
[www.experian.com/fraud/center.htm](http://www.experian.com/fraud/center.htm)  
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**TransUnion**

P.O. Box 2000  
Chester, PA 19106  
1-800-680-7289  
[www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert](http://www.transunion.com/fraud-victim-resource/place-fraud-alert)

**Equifax**

P.O. Box 105069  
Atlanta, GA 30348  
1-888-766-0008  
[www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services](http://www.equifax.com/personal/credit-report-services)

Under Massachusetts law, you have the right to obtain any police report filed in regard to this incident. If you are the victim of identity theft, you also have the right to file a police report and obtain a copy of it.

You can also further educate yourself regarding identity theft, fraud alerts, security freezes, and the steps you can take to protect yourself, by contacting the consumer reporting agencies, your state Attorney General, or the Federal Trade Commission (FTC). The Federal Trade Commission can be reached at: 600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW, Washington, DC 20580; [www.identitytheft.gov](http://www.identitytheft.gov); 1-877-ID-THEFT (877-438-4338); and TTY: 866-653-4261. The Federal Trade Commission also encourages those who discover that their information has been misused to file a complaint with them. You can also obtain further information on how to file such a complaint by way of the contact information listed above. Instances of known or suspected identity theft should also be reported to law enforcement, the FTC, and the Massachusetts Attorney General.

If you have questions that are not addressed in this letter, please call our dedicated assistance line at 1-800-223-0837, available Monday through Friday, from 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., Pacific Time.

We sincerely regret any inconvenience or concern this event may cause you. Protecting personal information is a top priority for PSESD and we remain committed to safeguarding the personal information in our care.

Regards,



John Welch  
Superintendent  
Puget Sound Educational Services District