

# Making MTSS More Secure in K-12 Education

See the differences between the old way of compiling MTSS data vs. one secure, consolidated system for your MTSS practice



Your multi-tiered system of support (MTSS) framework depends on data from multiple sources and systems to see the whole child. **Protecting all that data throughout the process is challenging**, especially in the outdated ways of compiling and sharing MTSS data from both paper and unsecure digital sources.



1,241 total data incidents and **228 data breaches** in education in 2021<sup>1</sup>

From 2005-2021, U.S. schools leaked **28.6 million records** in 1,851 data breaches<sup>2</sup>

**\$4.35M = average cost** of data breaches in 2022<sup>3</sup>

**In the old way of MTSS practice, data is stored and shared in multiple, possibly unsecure formats.**

Data breaches compromise student data—including grades, bullying reports, and Social Security numbers—leaving students vulnerable to emotional, physical, and financial harm.

**Security is an issue when shared or accessed in a variety of ways:**

**ON PAPER**  
Risks include catastrophic events/natural disasters, theft, lack of audit trails to see who's viewed records, and lack of storage space that could put **sensitive data in unsecure physical locations**

**GOOGLE SHEETS, EXCEL, WORD**  
Possible to accidentally share an entire spreadsheet or document, exposing data to all recipients  
**Over 52.5 million Google users' data was accidentally exposed in 2018<sup>4</sup>**

**EMAIL**  
Phishing email attacks are one of the most successful and don't require a high level of cybercriminal skills

**ACCESSED VIA UNSECURE DEVICES**  
1.5 billion Internet of Things (IoT) cyberattacks in the first six months of 2021<sup>5</sup>

**NOT RESTRICTED BY ROLE AND/OR STUDENT ASSOCIATION**  
It's too easy to share data with any user, including those with inadequate permissions

**A modern, unified MTSS framework provides better data security—with one secure tool to identify and track student needs with extensive inputs, implement interventions, and review efficacy.**

## BENEFITS:

- One secure system with role-based access controls
- End-to-end encryption
- Fully encrypted storage
- Full auditing
- Full data recovery

## MTSS WORKFLOW IN A MODERN, SECURE, CONSOLIDATED SYSTEM:

- Review student data
- Identify appropriate tiered intervention
- Track student progress within the intervention
- Assess effectiveness
- Determine next steps



## SECURE DATA WITH POWERSCHOOL UNIFIED INSIGHTS™ MTSS

Gain the security of a modern, unified MTSS framework in the most comprehensive K-12 solution. Unlike old methods of compiling and sharing unsecure data from disparate sources, Unified Insights MTSS keeps your student data secure in one, controlled platform providing centralized access to critical current and historical student information.

## Modern MTSS with Secure Data

Find out more about how you can implement a MTSS framework that improves your data security.

[Learn More](#)



<sup>1</sup> Verizon, "2022 Data Breach Investigations Report," 2022

<sup>2</sup> Comparitech, "US schools leaked 28.6 million records in 1,851 data breaches since 2005," Dec. 2021

<sup>3</sup> IBM, "Cost of a data breach 2022: A million-dollar race to detect and respond," 2022

<sup>4</sup> MUO, "5 Reasons Why Google Drive Is a Security Risk," April 2022

<sup>5</sup> IoT World Today, "IoT Cyberattacks Escalate in 2021, According to Kaspersky," Sept. 2021