

AIMS Cross-Team Project Overview: Supporting Data Sharing Across AIMS

Project Description

The ability to share data securely and efficiently across research projects is essential to the ongoing work of the Collaboratory. However, accomplishing this goal is challenging because most districts require specific, exclusive arrangements with their research partner(s). These relationships take a great deal of trust and time to develop. **This project pilots initial ideas and processes to set the stage for data sharing within, across and ultimately beyond the Collaboratory for research and development.** Initial ideas include the following activities.

Activities

1. The creation of a common data sharing guide, including:
 - a. Getting input from district voices, early and often
 - b. Clear language about the purpose of the Collaboratory and how data will be used, including specific strategic language to counter fear mongering around nefarious uses of student data and the promotion of ethical edtech data sharing
 - c. Common language (e.g., dictionaries), common data architecture, and common practices around data sharing, which ultimately lead to the creation of a common data sharing agreement
2. Conduct a small pilot using an existing data sharing agreement with one of the partners. This allows us to:
 - a. Determine the challenges and possible solutions in modifying an existing agreement to include additional Collaboratory research partner(s)
 - b. Work out language and messaging before expanding the idea more broadly. Initial benefits, if the data sharing platform and processes expand over time:
 - i. Districts will have access to an online repository that describes how the data works, is defined and securely stored, helping with messaging to parents
 - ii. Teachers will have dashboards with common language to support interpretation and analysis, benefitting their students
 1. The group has some creative ideas about how to make the dashboard interactive with tools and videos that pop up to define nebulous terms, show where data come from, etc, as educators navigate the dashboard
 - iii. Students and families could receive reports that currently aren't possible, including reports that describe performance/learning across multiple programs
 - iv. Researchers would have standardized data from which to replicate experiments and explore priority questions across a more representative population.

