



Rhode Island Longitudinal Data System Data Governance Committee DRAFT Minutes

Wednesday, February 21, 2024 – 10:00 AM

Zoom Meeting: <https://uri-edu.zoom.us/j/99752115303>

This meeting was RECORDED

RI Department of Education, Room 608
255 Westminster St, Providence, RI, 02903

COMMITTEE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE: Andrea **Spargo** (RIOPC); Harris **Hameed** (DOIT); Mike **Matkowski** (OMB); Scott **Gausland** (RIDE); Colleen **Caron** (DCYF); Rebecca **Lebeau** (OHHS); Vincent **Flood** (DOA); and Dana **Brandt** (RILDS).

COMMITTEE MEMBERS ABSENT: Megan **Swindal** (DLT)

GUESTS: Rebecca Bucci (OHHS); Erin Twomey-Wilson (Onward We Learn); Judah Boulet (RIDOH); Liz Stone (RIDEM); Rachel Calabro (RIDEM); Molly Pileggi (Research for Action); Andrew Bramson (Onward We Learn); and Jim Berson (Skills for RI's Future).

SUPPORT STAFF: Kim Pierson (RILDS)

Meeting of the Rhode Island Longitudinal Data System Data Governance Committee was called to order by Dana Brandt at 10:05 AM EST.

1. **WELCOME** - **Brandt** opened the meeting and welcomed everyone.
2. **VOTE** on Adoption Meeting Minutes – **Brandt** introduced the first order of business to adopt the minutes for the November 15, 2023, and December 20, 2023, meetings. The Committee unanimously approved both sets of minutes.
3. **REVIEW** of Data Request Fee Structure – **Brandt** reviewed the Fee Structure as approved by the Executive Governing Committee in January 2024. She informed the Committee that it will be reviewed annually.
4. **DISCUSSION of & VOTE** on Request & Release Policy– **Brandt** highlighted the changes to the Data Request and Release Policies. She described the changes as impacting process more than policy.

When the RILDS Center releases a product, the Center notifies the entire Data Governance Committee, and all members participate in the review. Brandt reminded this Committee that this review is limited to disclosure avoidance review. The proposed change provides notification to the entire Data Governance Committee but limits disclosure avoidance review to the Data

Contributing Agencies whose data is included in the product. This change minimizes the burden on Data Governance Committee members and streamlines the review process. Another change removes the notification and review for RILDS Center products using only publicly available data.

5. **DISCUSSION** of & **VOTE** on Data Requests

a. *RIDEM, Climate Change Dashboard*

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland

ABSENT: Swindal

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None

ABSTENTION: None

b. *RIOPC, Economic Impact of Higher Education Dashboard*

Caron asked for details around the ages requested for the workforce outcomes.

Lebeau asked for more information around how the dashboard would address populations involved with the criminal justice system. **Brandt** clarified that this population would likely be combined with other populations facing barriers to educational attainment or employment.

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland

ABSENT: Swindal

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None

ABSTENTION: None

c. *RIDE, Computer Science Education Statistics*

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland

ABSENT: Swindal

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None

ABSTENTION: None

d. *RIDOH, Educational & Justice Impacts of Lead Exposure Data Story*

Caron expressed hesitation and requested that the dashboard be presented in a way that that the outcomes don't imply causation.

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland

ABSENT: Swindal

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None
ABSTENTION: None

e. *Research for Action, Boys & Girls Clubs of America Evaluation*

Gausland asked for details on the crosswalk that RILDS would provide the researchers and its impact on the de-identified data. The representative from Research for Action on the zoom call, Molly **Pileggi**, explained that they would either create a new identifier on their end and partition off the files with the identifiers so that their researchers were not working with identifiable data or offered to allow RILDS to link their data and provide a de-identified dataset back to them. Either way, the Boys and Girls Club would not receive any individual level data.

Caron raised concerns about using the self-reported Foster Care flag in RIDE data which comes from the RI school districts. She requested pulling that element out of the request.

Gausland explained that RIDE has an application that allows districts to see who is in DCYF care and update their records accordingly.

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved with the caveat that RILDS not release the self-reported foster care element.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland
ABSENT: Swindal
VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None
ABSTENTION: None

f. *Clemson University, Teacher Demographics Statistics*

The data request has been withdrawn.

g. *Skills for Rhode Island's Future, Chronic Absenteeism & CTE Participation Report*

Gausland clarified the data source and **Brandt** confirmed that the RILDS Center would be using the anonymous SurveyWorks dataset.

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland
ABSENT: Swindal
VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None
ABSTENTION: None

h. *Onward We Learn, Course Taking Data*

Gausland requested clarification that Onward We Learn has parental consent from each individual student. Erin **Twomey-Wilson**, from Onward We Learn, confirmed that they do



have parental consent for every student who participates in their program. Many of the forms are housed in storage and would take a few months to retrieve all agreements. **Gausland** asked if all parents provide consent as a condition of the program and **Twomey-Wilson** confirmed that they do. **Gausland** withdrew his request to see all of the consent forms, and **Lebeau** suggested that Onward We Learn certify for the Committee that they have parental consent for every individual participant. **Twomey-Wilson** agreed, and Onward We Learn will certify that they have proper consent.

The Data Contributing Agencies unanimously approved with the caveat that Onward We Learn certify parental consent for each participant.

VOTING IN FAVOR: Caron, Spargo, Gausland

ABSENT: Swindal

VOTING IN OPPOSITION: None

ABSTENTION: None

6. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, the February 21, 2024, RILDS Data Governance Committee meeting adjourned at 11:09 AM EST.