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37TH Assembly District
Queens County

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Commissioner John King
New York State Education Department
89 Washington Ave.
Albany, NY 12234

December 16th, 2013

Dear Commissioner King,

Thank you again for your recent testimony at the Assembly Education Committee's hearing on student privacy and data collection. We appreciated that you took the time to respond to our questions.

As a result of the hearing, we find ourselves with serious concerns about the State Education Department's plan to share sensitive student data with InBloom. Many of the witnesses at the hearing presented moving and credible testimony about the potential flaws of this plan. One witness, Pleasantville Superintendent Mary Fox Alter, summed up these concerns in her submitted testimony:

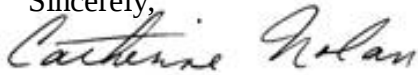
"The promise of digital personalized learning that uses individual data points on a child to plan digital learning solutions is dangerous. We cannot micromanage the learning needs of students or allow isolated data elements to be interpreted through a computer game, smartphone app or educational software to design learning. Students are human beings with individual needs, characteristics and learning trajectories."

After listening to Superintendent Fox Alter and so many other parents and teachers, we feel compelled to question this plan. We do not believe the State Education Department should share this information with InBloom, especially not at this time.

As you know, the Assembly passed two pieces of legislation this year aimed at curbing third party access to student data. Both bills, A.7872-A (Nolan) and A.6059-A (O'Donnell), passed the Assembly unanimously. We ask the State Education Department to provide us with input and review on this matter and look forward to your response to our requests.

We thank you for your time and consideration regarding this matter.

Sincerely,



Catherine Nolan

The following Assemblymembers join me in signing on to this letter:

Assemblymember Thomas Abinanti
Assemblymember Didi Barrett
Assemblymember Michael Benedetto
Assemblymember David Buchwald
Assemblymember Anthony Brindisi
Assemblymember Harry Bronson
Assemblymember Marcos Crespo
Assemblymember Michael Cusick
Assemblymember Steven Englebright
Assemblymember Patricia Fahy
Assemblymember Dennis Gabryszak
Assemblymember Sandra Galef
Assemblymember Deborah Glick
Assemblymember Philip Goldfeder
Assemblymember Aileen Gunther
Assemblymember Carl Heastie
Assemblymember Rhoda Jacobs
Assemblymember Ellen Jaffee
Assemblymember Ronald Kim
Assemblymember Charles Lavine
Assemblymember Barbara Lifton
Assemblymember Donna Lupardo
Assemblymember William Magee
Assemblymember William Magnarelli
Assemblymember Alan Maisel
Assemblymember Margaret Markey

Assemblymember Shelley Mayer
Assemblymember John McDonald
Assemblymember Michael Miller
Assemblymember Joan Millman
Assemblymember Walter Mosley
Assemblymember Daniel O'Donnell
Assemblymember Steven Otis
Assemblymember Amy Paulin
Assemblymember Crystal Peoples-Stokes
Assemblymember Annette Robinson
Assemblymember Gabriela Rosa
Assemblymember Linda Rosenthal
Assemblymember Addie Russell
Assemblymember Michelle Schimel
Assemblymember Luis Sepulveda
Assemblymember Frank Skartados
Assemblymember James Skoufis
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Assemblymember Harvey Weisenberg
Assemblymember Kenneth Zebrowski