DCFS Student Information System (SITS)

2011 LAUSD – 1200 students / 3000 students with court order

Uninterrupted Scholars Act of 2013 share in large data batch

LAUSD, Pomona and Long Beach sharing full student records 2013

Educational Coordinating Council / LACOE / DCFS collaborating in 2014 - Educational Passport System created
EPS - What is it?

- Secure data sharing system: foster youth educational records
- Partnership LACOE / DCFS / Districts / Probation
- Includes homeless youth
- Ability to share student documents
**What Is EPS?**

- The Educational Passport System (EPS) was built by the Los Angeles County Office of Education (LACOE) upon the work done by DCFS and their Student Information Tracking System (SITS).

- LACOE, DCFS and the Probation Department partnered to design and rollout the system.

- This system is designed to share and exchange key information to support student educational pathways and transition. It contains:
  - Information and data sent to LACOE from DCFS, and educational information from school districts in Los Angeles County.
  - Student demographic data, school enrollments, course history, grades, test scores and electronic documents.

- This data supports school enrollment and appropriate educational placements so that students do not fall through the cracks of these systems (or end up getting frustrated and drop out).
Why is this important?

• School stability is a significant issue facing students in foster care.

• We know that young people in the system have dealt with/endured significant trauma, abuse, neglect....which explains why they have some of the poorest educational outcomes.

  ➢ Less than half graduate high school and they have the highest dropout rates of all other student groups.*

• A ground-breaking study called the “Invisible Achievement Gap” revealed that only \( \frac{2}{3} \) of students in foster care stay at the same school for a full year.\(^1\)

• The rest will change their school placements up to \( 3 \times \)’s per year. With each school change, there is about a semester’s worth of academic loss.\(^2\)

  ➢ *Much of this loss has to do with loss of credit or lack of education records for appropriate school placement*\(^1\)

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“My life was so chaotic all the time and so was my school experience. I changed schools a lot. I made and lost friends. I didn’t try in class I know I wouldn’t finish. I got in trouble to get attention. Then after a while in high school I turned it around because I wanted a better life, and there were a few teachers who cared enough to help me pass and get a diploma.”

-Student in foster care

**Why is this important?**

- We also know that young people are resilient and that if we can provide them a stable environment, they can thrive.
  - *When agencies work together, they can accomplish more*

- The Department of Children and Family Services (DCFS) cannot do this alone; Education agencies cannot do this alone. We need to work together, communicate, collaborate, share information, etc... to identify the students in our schools and provide appropriate support.
CORE ADVISORY TEAM MEMBERS

- Los Angeles County Office of Education
- Los Angeles County Department of Children and Family Services
- Edelman Children’s Court
- Alliance For Children’s Rights
- Office of Child Protection (OCP)
- Bonita Unified School District
- Hacienda La Puente Unified School District
- Montebello Unified School District
- Palmdale School District
- La Puente School District
EPS PORTAL MODULES

- FosterYouthCore (Foster Youth)
- DocumentLibrary (Document Library)
- MDT (Multi-Disciplinary Team)
- ILP (Individual Learning Plan)
- HomelessEducation (Homeless Education)
- HeadStart (LacoE Head Start Application)
- DistrictReports (District Reports)
Usage and Stats

80 LA County School Districts - 26 Charter Schools - 1 Community College

Usage detail 60 days prior to 5/31/2019

1M+ Document Pages
1883 Document Requests
4867 Student Searches
2063 Users
EPS Core Team

Completed Activities:

✓ Memorandums of Understanding (MOU) in place with 80 of 80 districts plus 24 public Charter schools
  ▪ An Amended MOU offered in January 2018 extending EPS to:
    ▪ Homeless Student Population (84 signed)
    ▪ General Student Population Cumulative Folders Upload (58 signed)
    ▪ EPS updated to collect academic data of Homeless students from Aeries, PowerSchool and Illuminate student information systems
✓ Document Library module
✓ Document Signature module
✓ Revised Charter School MOU approved
✓ Multi-Disciplinary Team (MDT) module implementation by Probation Department (Camps and Halls)
**EPS CORE TEAM**

**COMPLETED ACTIVITIES:**

- MOU signed with Los Angeles County Department of Children Family Services
- MOU signed with Los Angeles County Workforce Development, Aging & Community Services (WDACS)
- Los Angeles County Early Education Student Population
- Los Angeles Unified School District (LAUSD) Homeless Student Population
- Los Angeles Community College District (Los Angeles Mission College as pilot)
- Mobile application for DCFS Children's Social Workers (CSWs)
- School Transfer and Emergency Transportation requirement (electronic version of Form 1399)
EPS Core Team

Ongoing Activities:

➢ Data Sharing Expansion
➢ Import of Homeless student data from California Longitudinal Pupil Achievement Data System 8.1 Reports (CALPADS)
➢ Extending LACOE Foster Youth Case Management functionality
EPS Core Team

Upcoming Activities:

➢ Los Angeles Unified School District Homeless Student Population
➢ Enable access to Edelman Children’s Court and other Los Angeles County agencies
➢ DCFS Children's Social Worker (CSWs) access - Pilot Implementation
➢ Los Angeles County Office of Education and Sacramento County Office of Education have agreed to explore connecting/interfacing our two systems (EPS and Foster Focus) - a data sharing agreement of this magnitude would cover approximately 90% of the State's foster youth population
L.A. COUNTY PROBATION DEPARTMENT

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES:

✓ Feature - “Search By Email” added to Contact Book function
✓ PDJ Number Correction Interface to Administrator Menu
✓ New Contact Types
✓ Verification of Meeting Notifications
UPCOMING ACTIVITIES:

- Attendance Metrics – Los Angeles Unified School District
- Attendance rate, including total number of full day absences
- Indicator for truancy and habitual truancy
- SARB indicator with the date of SARB
- Special Education Student Population – Hacienda La Puente Unified School District
EDUCATIONAL PASSPORT SYSTEM (EPS)

**EPS Document Categories**

- Pupil Enrollment Form/SEMIS Form *(Confidential)*
- IEP/Request for Service *(Confidential)*
- Student Accountability/Progress Reports *(Confidential)*
- Student Accountability/Mandated Assessment Reports *(Confidential)*
- Psychological *(Confidential)*
- Health/Medical Development *(Confidential)*
- Speech and Language *(Confidential)*
- Assessment Plans, Consent, and Reports, Classroom and Designated Instruction Service Provider(s) *(Confidential)*
- Permits/Correspondence
- Transition Portfolio
- Transition Counselors Folder
- Multi-Disciplinary Team – MDT
- TSN
- TSN-WAI
- Exit Packets
- Free and Reduced Meals
- Post-Secondary

Document folders designated confidential are *not visible to all EPS users*. Users must have the appropriate security role to view confidential folders or contents.
LACOE FOSTER YOUTH SERVICES

COMPLETED ACTIVITIES:

✓ Executive Advisory Council (EAC) data focus groups update
✓ Short-Term Residential Therapeutic Program (STRTP) Triage Pilot with Pasadena Unified School District (PUSD) and DCFS
✓ Tutoring Referral Tracking Module
✓ Enhanced Foster Youth Case Management Module
✓ Focused EPS Support for Differentiated Assistance (DA) districts
✓ Document Library Implementation Assistance

UPCOMING PROJECTS

➢ FAFSA completion tracking
➢ BID meeting tracking
➢ "View only" access to Foster Youth Services (FYS) Case Management module to increase coordination
➢ JV 535 Indicator
EDUCATIONAL PASSPORT SYSTEM (EPS)
L.A. COUNTY DEPARTMENT CHILDREN AND FAMILY SERVICES

**Completed Activities:**

- Completed School Transfer/Emergency Transportation Tracking Testing
- Completed EPS requirements for Comprehensive Sexual Health Education tracking for youth in foster care (SB89)
- Testing completed for integration with the DCFS Applications Portal
- Implemented the Education Rights Holder Query with “in-home” as placement count
- Developed and Tested Mobile Application for Children's Social Worker (CSW)
DCFS MOBILE APPLICATION

Features:

**My Caseload** – View students assigned to current CSWs caseload. SCSW can view caseload for CSW within their supervision.

**Add Student to My Mobile Caseload** – Search, add new youth and remove cases no longer assigned.

**View Student Records** – Search by full or partial SSID, name, or date of birth. Information available includes: Demographics, Enrollment History, Student Attendance, and Progress Reports.
DCFS MOBILE APPLICATION PILOT

➢ DCFS Pomona Office and LACOE FYS Staff
➢ Length: 30 Days and at least 50 participants
➢ Create appropriate communications and training materials - including App Installation
➢ Gather feedback from pilot members
➢ Monitor and document issues received from members and development tools
➢ Communicate updates and feature changes
➢ Collect and evaluate results
EPS Mobile Architecture

Notes: Users must be configured in EPS Portal to have access

1) Requests Auth Token

2) Uses Auth Token to Request App Token

3) Requests App Token

4) Returns App Token

5) Receives App Token

6) Uses App Token to make secure requests

7) Returns data
LACOE will provide overall project management and technical support to complete all agreed upon tasks applicable to the implementation.

ACTIVITIES

- Data Transfer Between County Social Services Agency
- EPS On-Boarding Procedure
- MOU – Issuing and Tracking
- Student Information System (SIS) Data Integration – Systems in Riverside County
- Connecting Districts to EPS Portal
- Granting Permissions to District Applications Administrator
- Data Transfers Between Department of Public Social Services (DPSS), Districts and EPS
- End User Training – Support Documents
CHILDREN’S COURT — REQUIREMENTS GATHERING

STAKEHOLDER GROUPS:

➢ Court Clerk Representation
➢ Los Angeles Dependency Lawyers (LADL)
➢ Children's Law Center
➢ Alliance for Children's Rights
➢ County Counsel
➢ Public Counsel
➢ DCFS
➢ Education (District Registrars)

COURT AUTHORIZED DOCUMENTS

➢ JV-535 Order Designating Educational Rights Holder
➢ JV-535a Attachment of Order of Designating Educational Rights Holder
➢ JV-536 Local Educational Agency Response to Appointment of Surrogate Parent
Closing Question:

How can we work together to improve the system in order to meet the goal of improving support and services to students as quickly as we can?