

Dunlap Community Unit School District 323
Board of Education Meeting
August 19th, 2026

INFORMATION ITEM

TO: Members of the Board of Education

FROM:

- *Amelia Roberts, Assistant Principal, Dunlap High School & P.E.R.F.E.C.T BOC Member*
- *Matt Andrews, Assistant Superintendent*

Dunlap CUSD #323, through its partnership with P.E.R.F.E.C.T. (Peoria Educational Region for Employment and Career Training), has the opportunity to participate in the EdSystems RAMP II Pathways Grant. The grant supports continued development and evaluation of college and career pathways throughout the region.

As part of this work, participating school districts will enter into a Data Access and Evaluation Agreement with Northern Illinois University (NIU). The agreement allows NIU to serve as the District's authorized representative for the limited purpose of evaluating the effectiveness and outcomes of college and career pathway programming.

Through the Regional Data Collaborative, district data may be securely linked with postsecondary and employment data to better understand student outcomes following high school. The project will allow participating districts to examine areas such as:

- Student participation and performance within college and career pathways;
- Dual credit, transitional coursework, work-based learning, and other college and career readiness programming;
- Postsecondary enrollment, persistence, transfer, and credential completion;
- Connections between pathway participation and longer-term student outcomes; and
- Opportunities for continuous improvement of local and regional pathway programming.

The agreement includes provisions governing student data privacy, security, access, transmission, use, and destruction. Following review, additional safeguards and clarifying language were incorporated into the agreement, including compliance with the Student Online Personal Protection Act (SOPPA), annual District approval of data requests, written notification when District data is proposed to be linked with additional institutions, restrictions on the use of artificial intelligence without prior written consent, and District review of research and publications prior to release.

The purpose of this agreement is to allow Dunlap CUSD #323 to participate in the regional evaluation work supported through the RAMP II Pathways Grant while maintaining appropriate District oversight and protections for student information.

The Data Access and Evaluation Agreement with Northern Illinois University is attached for board review.