Email Subject: Notice of Data Breach

Laguna Beach Unified School District (LBUSD) is committed to protecting the confidentiality and security of our students' information and that of their parents. We are writing to address an incident that involved your data. This notice explains the incident, measures that have been taken, and some steps you can take in response.

What Happened?
LBUSD uses the Aeries Student Information System to provide students and their parents with online access to information regarding school events and schedules. In late November 2019, Aeries learned that an unauthorized individual attempted to exploit a vulnerability in the Aeries software that would allow access to student and parent information. Aeries later determined that the exploit was successful. Upon discovery, Aeries began an investigation and law enforcement launched an investigation to identify the person responsible, who Aeries believes is now in police custody. On May 6th, 2020, Aeries confirmed to us that this individual may have accessed the other districts' Aeries Systems. We then conducted our own investigation, and on May 14, 2020, determined that the individual did access parent and student data within the LBUSD's Aeries System.

It is our understanding that over 150 school districts in California have been impacted by this incident.

What Information Was Involved?
The information accessed by the perpetrator potentially included parent and/or student name, home address, email address and hashed password, a form of rendering the actual password indecipherable to third parties – for the Aeries System.

What You Can Do
Even though we have no evidence that your personal information has been misused, we wanted to let you know this happened and assure you we take it very seriously. Even though the password itself was not accessed, it is possible that an individual with enough time and skill could eventually decipher the password. Therefore, out of an abundance of caution, you will be required to change your password on May 29th. To further secure your account, we will temporarily disable it if you do not sign in to change your password within 14 days of this notice. You would then need to contact HelpDesk@LBUSD.org to reset your account. Additionally, if you use the same password for other online accounts, we recommend changing the password for those accounts as well. After the school year closes, we will change the password to all student accounts.

What We Are Doing
We understand the importance of protecting the privacy and security of personal information, and we regret any inconvenience or concern this incident may cause. In order to avoid the possibility of unauthorized access to the accounts involved, we are requiring all account holders whose accounts were involved to change their passwords. To help prevent something like this from happening again in the future, we installed the software patch that Aeries made available to remedy the vulnerability that allowed the unauthorized individual to access our Aeries system. In addition, we and Aeries are reviewing our existing policies and procedures to mitigate any risk associated with this incident and to better prevent future incidents.

For More Information
We apologize for any inconvenience this may cause you. If you have any questions please email HelpDesk@LBUSD.org.

Sincerely,

Jason Viloria
Superintendent
Laguna Beach Unified School District