

# SEE THE DIFFERENCE



## Using Data to Make a Difference in Student Achievement One State at a Time

The Data Quality Campaign headed by the National Center for Educational Accountability seeks to nationally collect student data in 10 essential areas ranging from test scores to dropout rates to increase student achievement.

**STI** has partnered with the Alabama State Department of Education to meet the Data Quality Campaign data element requirements. By using a unique student identification number, the Alabama State Department of Education is one of only eleven States meeting all 10 data elements to attain student excellence through longitudinal data systems.

The State of Alabama has built their longitudinal data systems through the following platforms:

- *Student Information Systems*
- *Special Education Tracking*
- *Professional Development*
- *Health Services*
- *Food Services*
- *Parent Communications*

“Our participation in the Data Quality Campaign prompted the ALSDE to initiate accountability measures and standardization at the state level in order to effectively collect accurate, reliable data.”

Dr. Craig Pouncey  
Alabama Assistant  
State Superintendent  
of Education

Key Participation Drivers for the State of Alabama:	The State of Alabama's Proven Results:
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Standardize data collection Statewide</li> <li>2. Decrease student dropout rates</li> <li>3. Meet NCLB standards</li> <li>4. Provide stakeholders with data driven results for funding</li> </ol>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Improved education statewide</li> <li>2. Consistent accurate student data</li> <li>3. Ability to monitor low performing schools</li> <li>4. Lower discipline incidents reported</li> <li>5. Efficiently analyze state data</li> <li>6. Flexibility in updating reporting requirements</li> </ol>

# 10 Essential Components to Quality Data

The Data Quality Campaign has outlined 10 essential elements that longitudinal data systems need to collect in order to meet the goals of NCLB and ARRA funding...



## About STI

STI is a leading provider of Education Data Management solutions to the K-12 public and private school market. STI's fully integrated suite of Web-based products addresses attendance, scheduling, discipline, grade reporting, financial management, student health, parent/teacher communications, special education, formative assessment and professional development services. More than 7,000 schools in 50 States and several countries use STI solutions. The company was founded in 1982 and is headquartered in Mobile, AL.

- **Unique statewide student identifier that connects student data across key databases across years**  
*InformationNOW's* unique state identifier allows the school, district and state to continually track a student throughout the entire school career. As a student moves from school to school, district to district, the specific information related to that student stays with them via the unique identifier. In addition, it allows other systems, such as transportation, library, lunch, and assessment to link in additional data elements to the same student that are typically outside of the normal SIS data elements.
- **Student-level enrollment, demographic and program participation information**  
*InformationNOW* allows for a single "person" record, regardless if "person" is a student, staff member or contact. This primary record includes demographic information and group participation.
- **Ability to match individual students' test records from year to year to measure academic growth**  
An unlimited number of standardized tests can be tracked within *InformationNOW*.
- **Information on untested students and reasons they were not tested**  
Untested students can be assigned standardized tests without having test results and notes to the reason why a student did not take the test can be tracked within *InformationNOW*.
- **Teacher identifier system with ability to match teachers to students**  
The staff record in *InformationNOW* allows for a state identifier that matches a staff member to students via several ways on the student's schedule.
- **Student-level transcript information, including information on courses completed and grades earned**  
The transcript data including courses completed and grades/credits earned in *InformationNOW* will follow the student where the student moves within the school/district. With STIState, the transcript data can be transferred between districts.
- **Student-level college readiness test scores**  
Readiness tests can be tracked as standardized tests within *InformationNOW*.
- **Student-level graduation and dropout data**  
Graduation and dropouts are tracked in *InformationNOW* for all students. This data is maintained over multiple years for data analysis purposes.
- **Ability to match student records between P-12 and higher education systems**  
*InformationNOW* works with several electronic transcript systems and allows exports today to E-Transcript and ConnectEDU.
- **State data audit system assessing data quality, validity, and reliability**  
State required data validation is available in *InformationNOW*.