

*Marathon Central School District*  
*Office of the Superintendent of Schools*  
*Post Office Box 339*  
*1 Park Street, Marathon, New York 13803*  
*Tel. 607-849-3117 Fax. 607-849-3305*

*Mrs. Rebecca Stone*  
*Superintendent*

*Mrs. Heather Euson*  
*District Clerk*

August 29, 2019

Dear Parent/Guardian

To provide our students with the best possible educational experience, the Marathon Central School District uses a number of digital learning tools. One of those tools is a student assessment program called AIMSweb, a product of Pearson Education, Inc. We have been advised that Pearson has discovered that some personally identifiable student information, stored by Pearson in the AIMSweb 1.0 platform, was accessed by unauthorized users. We are sending you this letter because we believe that information regarding a child of yours was among the information that was accessed without authorization.

Working with the instructional technology support team at the Central New York Regional Information Center, this is what we know:

- The unauthorized access occurred in November 2018. Marathon received notification that our data was breached on August 28, 2019;
- The records of approximately 1005 Marathon Central School District students were accessed without authorization;
- The information about each student accessed by unauthorized users was the student's first and last names, the student's date of birth, the student's school ID number and the building they attended;
- The unauthorized users gained access to student information stored in an older version of the software called AIMSweb 1.0, and the information stored in the software version currently used by the District was not accessed; and
- This breach of Pearson's digital security has affected numerous school districts in several states.

Pearson, with the assistance of external cybersecurity experts, launched a review and confirmed the existence of the incident and the impacted data. The design of the database and application limited the data that was accessed. If we are notified of additional information, we will contact those individuals directly.

Please know that Marathon Central School District is committed to protecting and securing educational data. Our team has training related to data security and privacy, and our systems

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have controls in place to protect your child's educational records. Additionally, we have received assurances that Pearson has taken the necessary steps to mitigate the incident and is enhancing protections to guard against similar events.

While there is no evidence that the information described above has been misused, Pearson is offering complimentary credit monitoring from Experian for 1 year for affected individuals as a precautionary measure. If you are interested in learning more about this option, please call Pearson at 866-883-3309 or email [aimswb1request@pearson.com](mailto:aimswb1request@pearson.com).

Please contact me at 607-849-3117 with any questions you may have regarding this incident and our response.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Rebecca Stone".

Rebecca Stone  
Superintendent