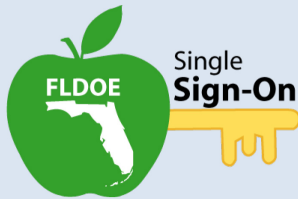July 2013, Volume 4

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Leaders' Advance Newsletter

Inside This Issue:
1. *Status of the Project*
2. *SSO Resources Updated*
3. *Myths and Misconceptions*

Status of the Project

If you haven't heard the news, development is over and on-boarding for school districts is in full swing! As of this publication:

- 10 LEAs have completed all requirements
  - 4 Federated
  - 6 Hosted
- 35 LEAs are in progress
  - 16 Federated
  - 19 Hosted
- 29 LEAs have not begun the on-boarding process

As you can see, the majority of school districts are well on their way to enjoying easier access to state resources! For school districts needing to begin their on-boarding, please contact us at (850) 245-9776 or fldoe-sso@fldoe.org.

SSO Resources Updated

Check out the SSO Resources in the **Communications and Events** section of our website!

- Our *Frequently Asked Questions* have recently been updated to reflect questions and concerns that have arisen as we progress through the stages of implementation.
- The *LEA Integration and User Provisioning Specification* document has been updated and now includes final file formats and on-boarding steps.
- The *LEA Certificate of Readiness* form has been updated. This is a key deliverable for those districts participating in the Race to the Top initiative.
- The LEA Functional and Technical Leads form has also updated with the most recent contact information for the district representatives.

Please discard any versions predating June 10, 2013.

Myths and Misconceptions

We do not want all of our applications in FLDOE SSO!

Florida's Race to the Top grant application provided for single sign-on access to six State educational resources. It **will not** impact user access to any local applications or resources. Thus far, the Florida School Leaders and eIPEP applications have been included, with CPALMS scheduled to come aboard in August 2013. The remaining three applications will become available in 2014.

We need to provide specifications to our application vendors so our local applications can be incorporated into the FLDOE SSO portal.

No, the FLDOE SSO portal is limited to state resources coordinated and managed by the Florida Department of Education.

We don't have Active Directory (AD) so we can't participate in FLDOE SSO.

We offer support for non-AD users! FLDOE-Hosted school districts are "hosted" in the Department's local Directory and the WS-Federation supports any SAML 2.0 compliant Identity Provider. Successful federated systems include Novell eDirectory, Shibboleth, IdAuto, and Stoneware.

Staff will have access to sensitive applications beyond their scope of work and the risk of unauthorized access to sensitive information is greater.

FLDOE SSO users have to be given explicit authorization to access applications by their administrators; therefore, not all users will have access to the applications that FLDOE SSO provides. Additionally, protecting sensitive information is every user's responsibility, the same as it is today. In-service workshops and communications from local technology offices will continue to provide information on security best practices such as locking one's workstation when not actively accessing it and keeping login credentials confidential.

We should wait until staff return in August before beginning on-boarding.

The on-boarding process is designed in such a way that allows school districts to prepare for FLDOE SSO and complete their Certificate of Readiness PRIOR to creating accounts for all staff. This means on-boarding can be completed over the summer and staff accounts can be created in August.