

Ed-Fi State Education Agency Playbook

Updated July 2026 V2



States and Districts have Several Data Related Pain Points

State Education Agencies



Timeliness. Can take weeks and even months to respond to legislative data requests



Data quality. Data received from districts is often in different formats and missing info



Costly collection. Avg SEA has 10-15 Head Count (\$1.1M+) processing and cleaning district data

Local Districts



Reporting. Avg of 6 Head Count (\$0.5M) per district to collect and format data



Absenteeism. Need earlier alerts of potential chronic absenteeism – vs months later

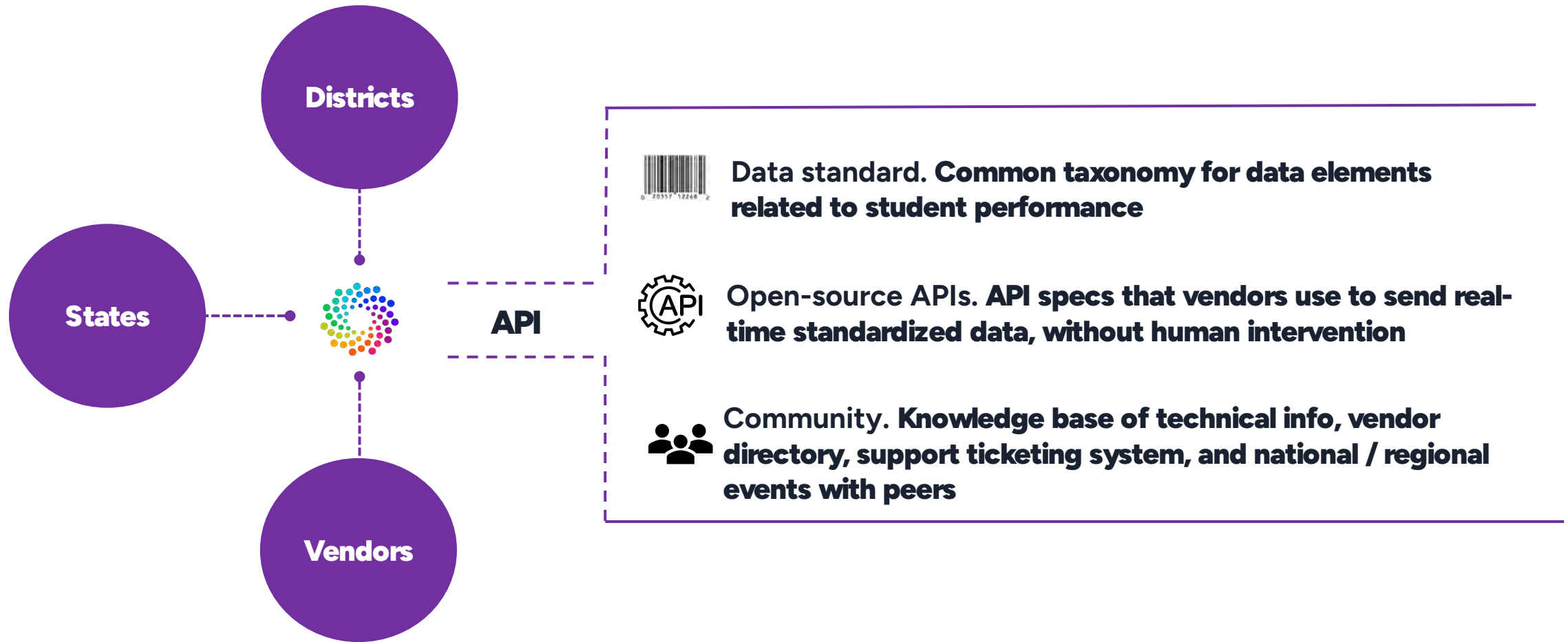


Assessments. Don't have access to a consolidated student level view of assessment results



College Career Readiness. Limited visibility into how performing against state targets

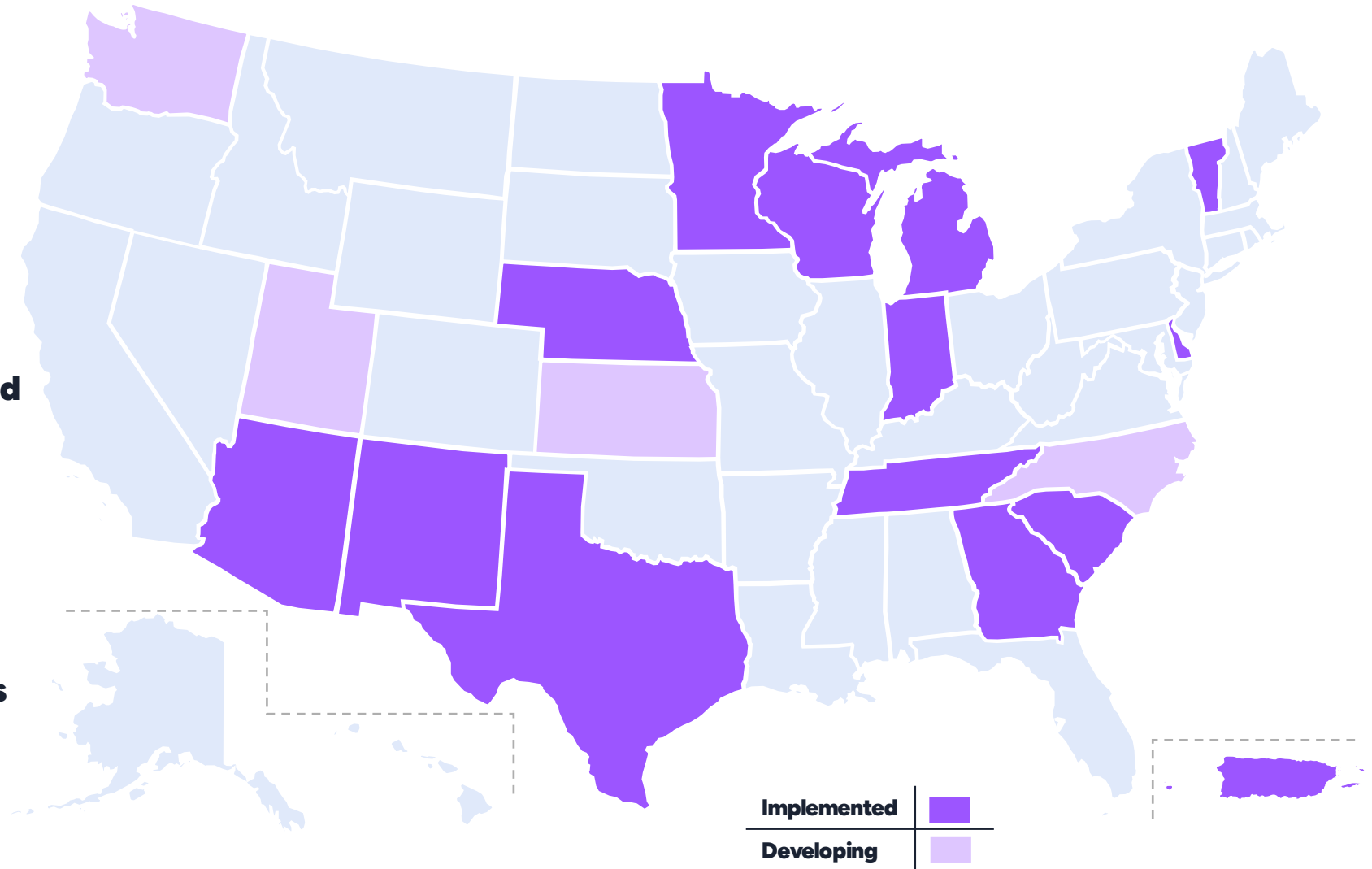
Connecting Data, Empowering Educators



Ed-Fi Data Standard Implementation

The Ed-Fi Data Standard solves discrete problems for different segments of the K-12 Market, including:

- **State Reporting - implemented in 26% of states nationwide**
- **Sourcing student assessment data for school principal dashboards**
- **Rostering for edtech products or assessment administration**



Moving from State Reporting to Shared Services

Data Hubs deliver real cost savings, faster updates, and measurable accountability gains across states.

WHY IT'S WORKING

>800% ROI

Through automated reporting and shared infrastructure in Michigan

46%

Improvement in accountability outcomes in Texas

24 hours

Changes made in local systems are reflected statewide within a day in South Carolina

ACTIVE DATA HUBS

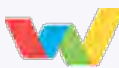
	Michigan Data Hub	867 districts
	Texas Education Exchange	788 districts
	South Carolina Palmetto Data Collaborative	82 districts

Combined total

1,737 LEAs

IMPLEMENTING HUBS

Early in their journey — not yet open for general district use

	Wisconsin WInsights
	Nebraska NEDC
	Washington WSIPC Data Hub

3 Data Hubs in Development

Indiana

Indiana turned a compliance system into a real-time, statewide data foundation using the Ed-Fi Data Standard, providing analytics and data services back to districts.



Challenge

A 20+ year old data system was slow, manual, and error-prone — offering little value beyond meeting compliance deadlines.



Approach

IDOE partnered with the Ed-Fi Alliance and technology providers to adopt the Ed-Fi Data Standard in phases, with ongoing training and district input.

KEY USE CASES & IMPACT



Student Data Backpack

A complete student profile: enrollment, demographics, special education, and program data.

Gives staff key student info instantly when a student changes schools — no more lost records in transfer.



GPS Dashboard

A statewide tool tracking Graduates Prepared to Succeed outcomes for every student.

Helps educators and families plan and monitor progress toward college and career readiness.



Early Warning System

Analyzes attendance, behavior, and course outcomes across current and prior years.

Flags students at risk of not graduating — or not graduating on time — so educators can act sooner.



Positive Attendance Tracking

A new approach that tracks and celebrates positive attendance trends, not just absences.

Helps schools rebuild strong attendance habits after pandemic-related disruptions.



Under the old system, schools certified their data weeks or months after submission. Now we're able to certify within two weeks of the count date.

John Keller, Chief Information Officer, Indiana Department of Education

Michigan

The Michigan Data Hub turned disconnected district systems into a real-time, statewide data platform built on the Ed-Fi Data Standard.



Challenge

Disconnected district systems couldn't share data, making both state reporting and student supports slow and manual.



Approach

The state, CEPI, and Intermediate School Districts built the Michigan Data Hub on the Ed-Fi Data Standard —connecting school districts in the state with a modern, flexible way to share information.

KEY USE CASES & IMPACT



MiRead

Supports Individualized Reading Improvement Plans, tracking dyslexia screening and assessments statewide.

Turns screening data into instructional strategies teachers use to catch reading gaps early.



Snack-Pack

Delivers state-verified student data — EL status, attendance, and more — into a district's SIS at enrollment.

Keeps services uninterrupted for highly mobile students changing schools, no re-entry lag.



Special Population Support

Tracks services and resources for students who need extra support across districts.

Helps schools comply with requirements while delivering timely, coordinated help.



Statewide Scale & ROI

857 of Michigan's 880 districts are live, processing 10M+ transactions a day across the Hub.

A 2024 ROI study found \$41M+ in annual savings and an 830% return on investment.

“The ability to obtain immediate information on newly enrolled students has improved our ability to provide timely services. Before we would have to wait for the previous school to send student status related to special education, English language, homelessness, etc., which caused a delay in needed services

- Sarah Hohler, Madison District

Nebraska

Nebraska replaced manual state reporting with automated, real-time data built on the Ed-Fi Data Standard, giving districts time and money back to support students.



Challenge

Staff pulled data from multiple systems and formatted files by hand, fixing errors after submission — often too late to act before deadlines.



Approach

With a federal SLDS grant, Nebraska adopted the Ed-Fi Data Standard to replace manual uploads with automatic data sharing, staying closely aligned to the core standard.

KEY USE CASES & IMPACT



School Funding Calculations

Districts see how enrollment and program data contributes to state funding calculations.

Allows districts to catch problems before they affect funding, not after.



Error Validation & Reporting

Real-time validation helps districts fix errors quickly as data is submitted.

Improves data quality and speeds up informed, confident decisions.



Accountability Reporting

Faster reporting improves transparency in state accountability results.

Builds district and public confidence in reported outcomes.



Assessment Integration

Assessment vendors connect once through the Ed-Fi API, statewide.

Eliminates costly district-by-district customization for vendors.

\$30M

in combined state and district savings statewide

10 wks → <1 day

to compile quarterly ED Facts reporting

25%



Reduction in data burden saving ~\$125k per district

South Carolina

South Carolina turned a local rostering challenge into a statewide data services system — built with districts and for districts, on the Ed-Fi Data Standard.



Challenge

Data systems were fragmented and outdated —state reports delayed by up to two years, and smaller districts lacking the staff to keep up.



Approach

Starting with student rostering, the state built trust district-by-district, forming the Palmetto Data Collaborative and delivering data tools to improve student outcomes

KEY USE CASES & IMPACT



Early Childhood Data

Integrated preschool data gives educators a fuller picture of young learners.

Helps teachers spot needs earlier, before gaps widen in later grades.



IEP System

A modern, centralized platform for tracking and delivering special education services.

Cuts paperwork and gives staff a clearer, shared view of student support plans.



College & Career Readiness

One platform combining student perception data with academic progress.

Allows educators to tailor support so more students leave ready for what's next.



Timely Alerts

Automatic notifications flag events like course drops as they happen.

Reaches counselors within 24 hours, so they can respond while it still matters.

// *Creating an environment where these resources are shared freely raises the floor for everyone.*

- Dan Ralyea, Chief Innovation Officer, South Carolina Department of Education

Tennessee

Tennessee turned average daily membership (ADM) funding into a transparent, near real-time process built on shared, community-built tools.



Challenge

Enrollment data lived across disconnected systems, taking weeks or months to turn into usable funding counts — with no visibility into how the state used it.



Approach

Using the Ed-Fi Data Standard and shared community-built tools, the state created a clearer, faster way to organize enrollment data for funding calculations.

KEY USE CASES & IMPACT



ADM Funding Dashboards

Shows districts exactly how their enrollment data drives state funding decisions.

Districts see the same numbers the state uses, catching issues before dollars are finalized.



Dual Enrollment Pilots

Connects high school and community college data for students taking both.

Gives a clearer view of student progress across two systems that rarely talk to each other.



Statewide Reporting

Aligns assessment, enrollment, and program data into one statewide reporting layer.

Cuts duplicate reporting and keeps every dataset speaking the same language.



Research-Ready Datasets

Delivers analysis-ready tables in a modern cloud warehouse, no manual prep needed.

Frees analysts to spend time on insights instead of cleaning and reshaping data.

“ We are building a stronger foundation for better decision-making and improved student outcomes statewide.

- Vijay Gollapudi, Chief Information Officer, Tennessee Department of Education

There are 3 primary approaches to implementing the Ed-Fi Data Standard

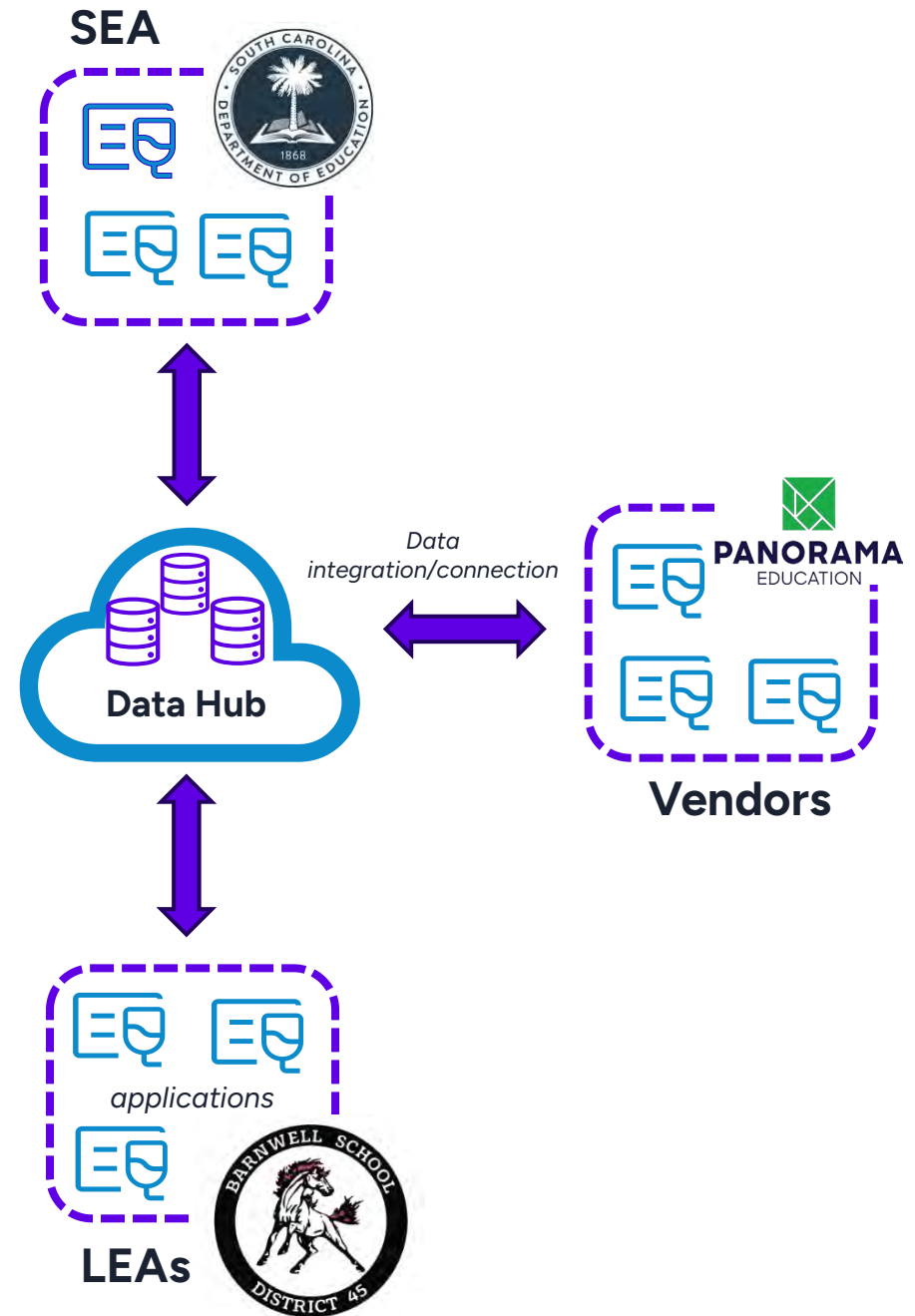
	Reporting modernization	ESA-led data hub	Reporting + data hub
Description	• Deploy Ed-Fi APIs to modernize data collection and reporting • Turn on the core Ed-Fi Data Standard elements and perform data gap analysis. • Vendor data goes directly to the SEA	• ESAs drive Ed-Fi data hub deployment focused on local district use cases • State funds effort (~\$2M p.a.)	• Data hub addresses local use cases and provides LEA reporting data to SEA • State defines reporting specs; ESAs define local use case specs
Benefits	• Drives cost savings of \$30M+ p.a. • Reduces LEA data burden • Not dependent on having ESAs	• Shortest (1.5-2 yr) time to impact • Address local district use cases • Lowest cost / limited SEA role	• Greatest impact; \$30M + local use cases • Shortens (1.5-2 yr) time to impact • Addressing local use cases creates LEA goodwill ahead of reporting • LEA change management ahead of reporting
Tradeoffs	• Doesn't address local use cases • Longest (2.5-3 yr) time to impact • LEA change management during the process	• Doesn't address reporting burden • Requires ESAs to coordinate/align • Vendor compliance can be mixed	• Requires ESA data services model • Some SEA/ ESA coordination required

What is a Data Hub?

A data hub is a shared enterprise system that enables school districts to collect, store, and use data in one place.

It supports secure, standards-based integration across vendor systems, providing insights while maintaining district control.

States operate these hubs to streamline data sharing, support smaller districts, and advance key policy initiatives.



Ed-Fi “Reporting + Data Hub” Implementation Happens in 3 Phases and 2 School Years

	Time	Key actions
Planning	3 months	• RFP; identify and onboard managed provider to support implementation • Solutioning; ESA-led data hub and initial local use cases • Data hub model; funded by state or charge back to LEAs for services • Budgeting; \$2.5M for reporting + any data hub state funding (up to \$2M)
Pilot	9 months*	• Data Hub development; 2-3 initial local district use cases (e.g., absenteeism) • Vendor Submits Ed-Fi Core Data Standard data via API • Perform Data Gap Analysis – Work with vendors to resolve integration issues. • Productize; launch data hub and initial solutions for LEAs • Pilot; State reporting with 5-10 LEAs and all vendors
Parallel	12 months	• Dual reporting; launch Ed-Fi API reporting pipeline and run in parallel for the duration of the school year to ensure error-proof funding

*Assumes adoption of core Ed-Fi Data Standard model with limited state extensions; significant extensions typically adds 6 months to the timeline

How the “Reporting + Data Hub” Approach Mitigates Potential Risks

SEA concerns to address

Scope

- Data modernization including state reporting is a multi-year undertaking

De-risking reporting

- Significant downside risk of errors in state reporting

District alignment

- Challenging to align state and ESAs when reassess standards to fit Ed-Fi

Potential playbook to address

- Limit state role to (a) funding ESA-led effort (b) “signaling” support by mandating Ed-Fi compliance*
- Can address local use cases in 18 months which (a) creates goodwill with districts ahead of reporting implementation (b) derisks reporting as districts have gone through change management
- Separate ownership and improve governance
 - o SEA owns analysis of standards for state reporting
 - o ESAs own analysis of standards for local use cases

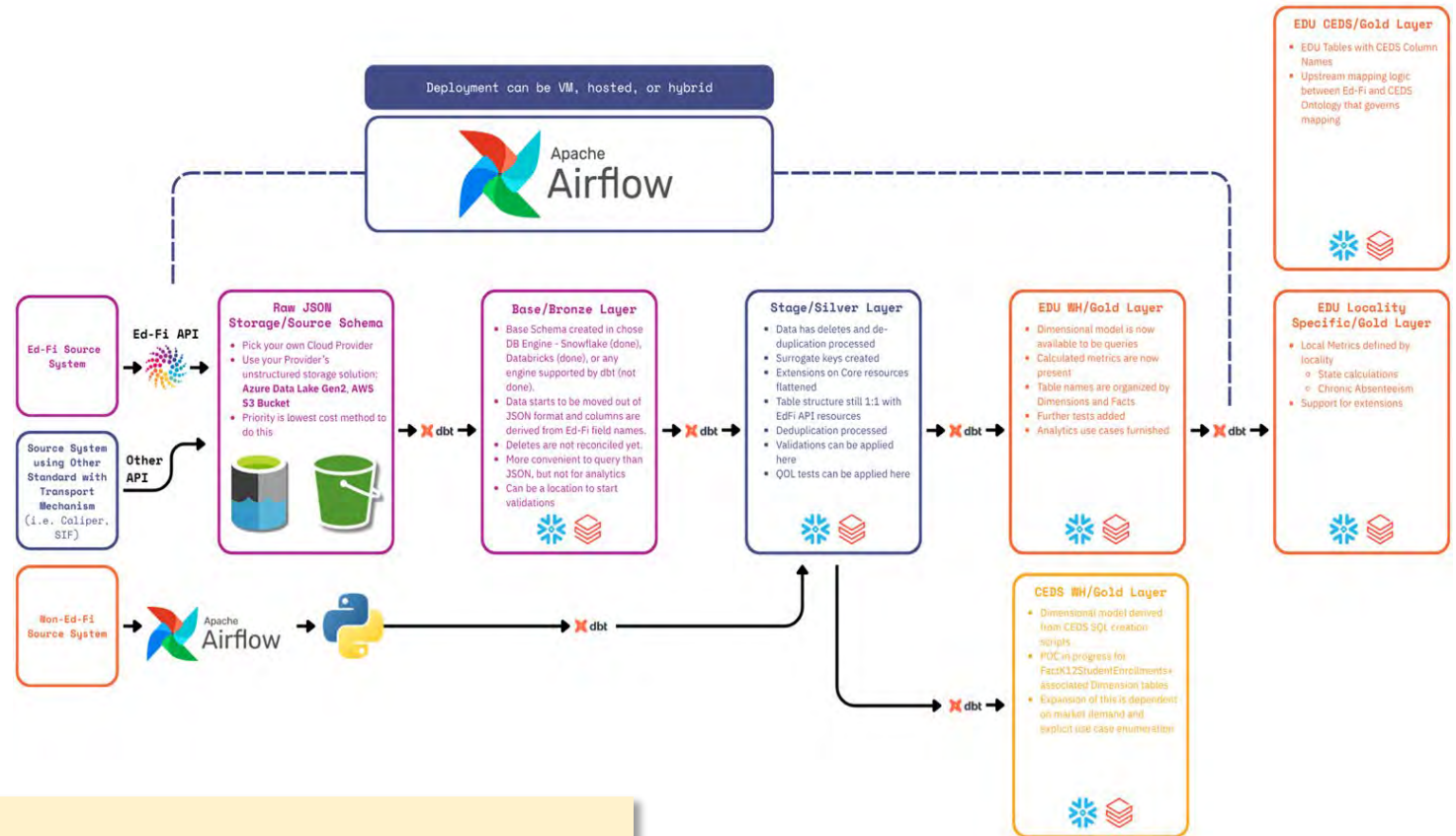
*More for signaling as no ability to enforce vendors at district level

Ed-Fi enables CEDS

For states with CEDS on their roadmap, a group of states under the [Ed-Tech Collaboratory](#) have developed and maintain an open-source Ed-Fi Data Standard to CEDS pipeline that transforms the Ed-Fi Data Standard via Ed-Fi API to a CEDS data warehouse.

This transformation uses the modern, open, [Enable Data Union](#) toolkit, built to enable state collaboration.

This pipeline is available for both AWS (Snowflake) and Microsoft Azure (Data Bricks).



Want a deeper dive on Enable Data Union and how to modernize your data warehouse?
[Learn more here.](#)

Ed-Fi and 1EdTech Working Together

For states using [1EdTech](#) standards – such as OneRoster, Comprehensive Learner Record (CLR) and Competencies and Academic Standards Exchange (CASE) – the Ed-Fi and 1EdTech community have been collaborating to make these standards work together.

In 2026, Ed-Fi and 1EdTech released an Ed-Fi OneRoster API that combines the functionality of OneRoster API and the Ed-Fi Student API, allowing vendors and developers to integrate with a single API.

Similar efforts to connect CLR and CASE are underway.



Comprehensive Learner Record



Competencies and Academic Standards Exchange (CASE)

Want a deeper dive on the Ed-Fi OneRoster collaboration and software?

[Learn more here.](#)

We're here to answer your questions



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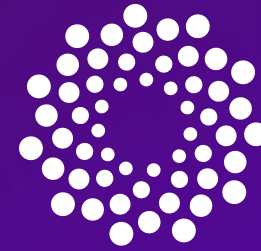


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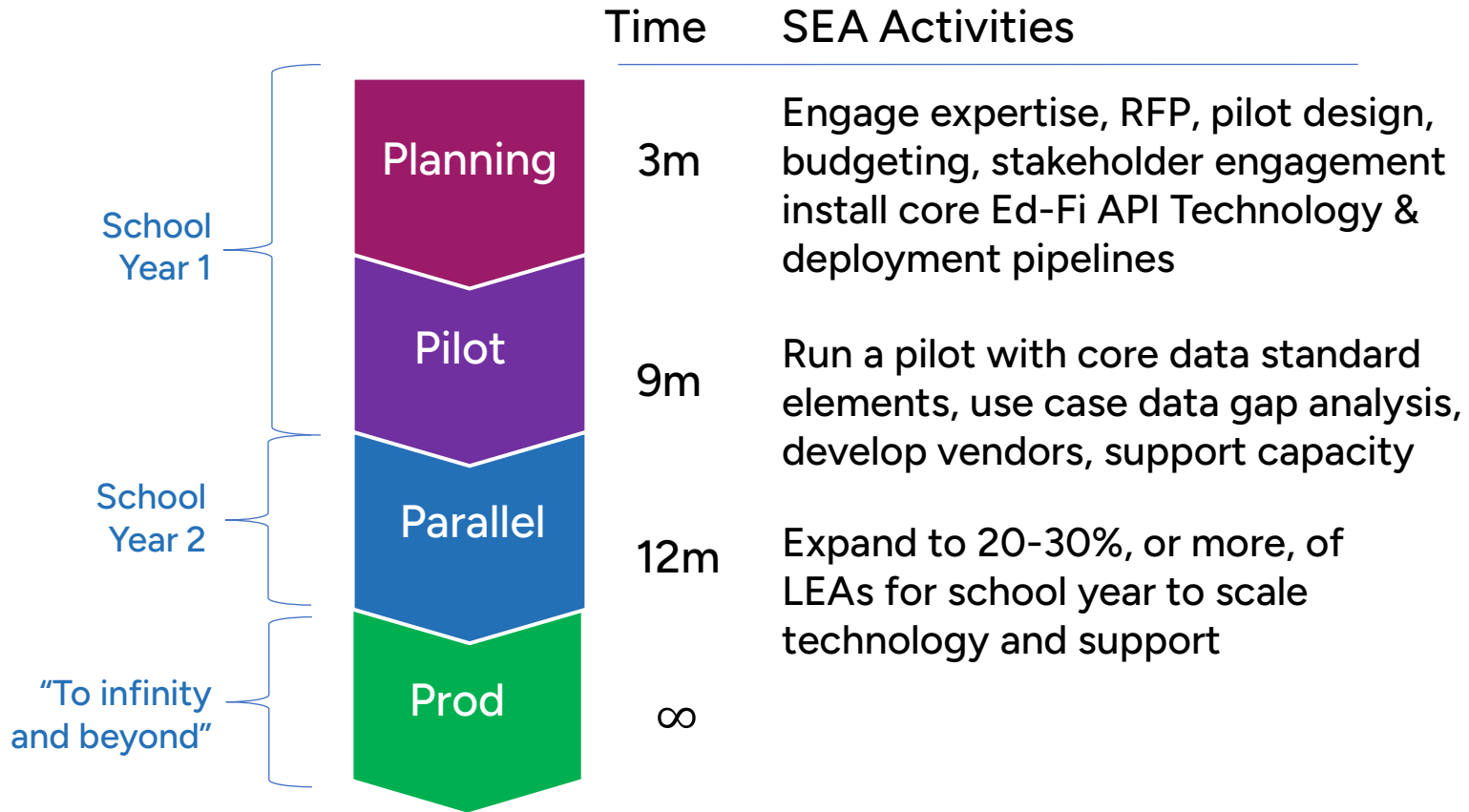
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ed·fi
ALLIANCE

Implementation

The Four Stages



Best practice is to be in production within 2 years. A faster timeline reduces unnecessary waste and builds team confidence.

With increased vendor awareness, use of an MSP and access to well-known best practices, the timeline to production has become much more rapid than it was even just a few years ago.

Planning phase overview



SEA

- Plan the project
- Assemble internal and external expertise
- Launch key communications with LEAs and vendors



LEAs

- Understand the goals and impacts of the state modernization project
- Initiate communications with their vendors



Vendors

- Understand the goals and impacts of the state modernization project
- Initiate communications with LEAs



ESAs (Data Hub)

- Build business plans collaboratively with their members
- Explore candidates for initial data services with their members

Planning - SEA Tasks

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First phase

- Secure and onboard Ed-Fi expertise: hire an Ed-Fi Managed Service Provider or consultant
- Select initial reporting targets/use cases for the project
- If Reporting + Data Hub, do initial outreach to ESAs or other possible data hub hosts

Second phase

- Communicate to vendors and LEAs your intent to use Ed-Fi for modernization; announce requirement for Ed-Fi Certification for all vendors
- Recruit pilot LEAs
- Turn on the Core Data Standard submission and perform a use case data gap analysis
- If doing Reporting + Data Hub, convene initial meeting on the project to drive ESA leadership engagement for Pilot phase

Third phase

- Engage in the SEA Work Group to build relationships with the Ed-Fi SEA community of practice
- Develop/update initial agency portal for vendors with all specifications, support, and other information developed and needed for the pilot to begin (include specifications already shared)
- Complete recruiting of pilot LEAs
- If doing Reporting + Data Hub, ESAs hire a Managed Service Provider or consultant



SEA Planning Goals

1. Secure expertise in the Ed-Fi Data Standard
2. Align internal teams
3. Launch key communications with LEAs and vendors
4. Prepare for pilot phase

Rethinking SEA Processes in the Move from File- to API-based Collection

Ed-Fi is not just a technology a SEA implements – for maximum impact it requires that states re-think older patterns of periodic data collection. Move from data “at reporting windows” to “continuous data flow”

Recommended

Not Recommended

Snapshots



Perform data snapshots required by policy on SEA systems instead of asking LEA vendors to snapshot



Don't require LEA vendors to do “as-of” dates or data snapshots

Milestones & “Reporting Windows”



Plan reporting around the concept of continuous integration of LEA data systems with the state



Don't reinforce “reporting window” type patterns and milestones

Release Timelines



Get the SEA team to think in terms of software release cycles and follow Ed-Fi guidelines for publication of specifications to LEA vendors



Release late changes to specifications that can't be accommodated by vendors who need to re-develop and re-deploy their software



The Ed-Fi Alliance has written a more detailed knowledge base article on this topic to help your team:

[Recommended SEA Process Changes for API-based Data Collection](#)

Join the SEA Workgroup Meetings

Frequency:

- **SEA Workgroup meetings are held once a month**

Purpose:

- **Provides a forum for the Ed-Fi Alliance to share working solutions and emerging concepts with the community**
- **Enable SEAs to engage with peers to discuss best practices and explore potential solutions to common challenges**

How to join:

- **Contact the Ed-Fi Solutions team to request access (Team emails at the end of this deck)**
- **A calendar invitation will be provided upon request**



Hire a badged Ed-Fi Managed Service Provider (MSP) or Consultant

- MSPs dramatically accelerate progress
- It is tempting to take a DIY approach, but a managed provider will have done this work many times over and understand the gotchas
- An MSP will understand best practice with regards to hosting options, maintaining current Ed-Fi products and tools, debugging integrations, providing vendor support and many other processes.
- If you have an existing consultant or a preferred vendor list, SEAs have successfully asked those providers to sub-contract with an experienced Ed-Fi MSP



How to find an MSP?

- Ed-Fi maintains a list of [badged MSPs](#)
- Get references from other Ed-Fi states. The Ed-Fi Alliance can provide contacts for these states (see contact information below)
- The Alliance can also help review RFP language



Begin with Core Student Information Systems Collection

Generally, SEA's choose "core" collections (enrollment counts/ADA; special services populations, etc.) from the student information system (SIS) as a first goal.

This allows SIS systems and LEAs to make the transition efficiently, without maintaining legacy systems.

Over time, more, smaller collections are included.

States often start with SIS data and expand to Finance, HR, CTE, and other domains.

Begin with Core

Recommended



Ask vendors to turn on the core Ed-Fi data submission and then perform a use case data gap analysis. It takes time to learn the Ed-Fi Data Standard. MSPs can help you avoid mistakes and maintain project momentum.



Follow [Ed-Fi Descriptor Guidance](#) for code sets in your specifications.



Train your staff on the Ed-Fi Data Standard language using your MSP and by having them participate in the process.

Not Recommended



Do an Ed-Fi mappings exercise, with MSP or on your own, prior to understanding the use case data gap needs.



Use Ed-Fi Descriptor values for data elements critical to your collections.



Allow this process to take more than 2 months – you have time to refine during the Pilot phase.

Data Hub is the best path to LEA value

During this phase Data Hubs are

- **Bringing internal leadership on board**
- **Drafting a business model**
- **Engaging an Ed-Fi Managed Service Provider**

Key actions

- **Host meetings with ESAs on the vision (the Ed-Fi Alliance can assist with this)**
- **Communicate requirement of Ed-Fi Certification for vendors**
- **Rollout of initial vendor supports by SEA**



Pilot phase overview

Primary SEA objective: get live data flowing so that SEA teams can understand Ed-Fi-based submissions.



SEA

- Run a live pilot with 5-10 LEAs to support internal SEA data updates and system supporting all external vendor and LEA development.
- Initiate Resolution Task Force meetings with LEAs and vendors



LEAs

- Pilot LEAs are actively engaged in submitting data
- Pilot LEAs are attending trainings and using early support resources



Vendors

- All vendors working with a small subset of 2-3 of their customers to develop Ed-Fi API capabilities



ESAs (Data Hub)

- Selecting initial data services and securing funding
- Finalizing business plan

Pilot - SEA Tasks

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First phase

- Setup a weekly vendor call (see "Vendor support and communications best practice" slide)
- Rollout API sandboxes for vendors
- Request vendors to submit their Ed-Fi core data submission.
- SEA dev teams begin updates of key architecture dependencies (see slide below; varies by state)
- Begin LEA portal updates to allow LEAs to track submissions, see errors, and resolve data issues locally

Second phase

- Begin publishing information on vendor progress publicly (encourages vendors to benchmark their progress and provides LEA visibility into their agency)
- Begin recruitment of parallel year LEAs
- Develop Parallel Year Support Plan
- Initiate Change Management strategy – Lead Resolution Task Force (RTF) meetings, (1x week per vendor)

Third phase

- Perform Use Case data gap analysis and extend model with minimal amount of extensions
- Make updates to requirements for gap data resolutions.
- Require that all SIS systems complete at least 1 Ed-Fi Certification milestone
- Begin execution of LEA support scale plan



SEA Pilot Goal

Run a live pilot with a small number of (5-10) LEAs to develop team confidence, learn, and adapt

Begin with Core Ed-Fi

SEA data collection teams are accustomed to making their own data standard, but Ed-Fi is a community-governed cross-state standard.

Avoid trying to “fit” Ed-Fi into legacy standards or processes.

Recommended



Ask vendors to turn on “core Ed-Fi **data submissions**”



Rewrite your SEA ETLs into data warehouses and other data marts



Only extend Ed-Fi when essential

Not Recommended



Change Ed-Fi element definitions



Requiring Vendors/LEAs to do business logic calculations



Extending the standard unnecessarily



Extensions and modifications to Ed-Fi standards “feel right” to SEAs, but...

...these practices cause longer-term issues and costs for the SEA.

Over time SEAs must “undo” unnecessary deviations from Ed-Fi, as vendors and other open-source products that SEAs integrate with expect Ed-Fi formats and not customized state profiles.

Updates to Data Architecture

- During this phase, SEA teams will initiate work to update dependent systems.
- In states with a mature data warehouse, use of Ed-Fi may not impact the warehouse, but the flow of data into that warehouse will change.
- Typical changes to consider include
 - Changes to validations & validation system
 - Updates to ETL/ELT to warehouse
 - Updates to LEA reporting interfaces (portal where LEAs see progress, error messages, etc.)
- Live data flows during a pilot dramatically accelerate development team progress



Resolution Task Force (RTF) Meetings

API issues can be difficult to debug:

- The vendor software may have a bug
- The LEA may be entering data or configuration incorrectly into their SIS
- The state API may have an error

To cut through finger-pointing and make progress, RTF meetings are **ESSENTIAL** to creating an agile state support system.

SEA-led vendor workshops bring together SEA staff, district data stewards, and a single vendor's technical and product teams (8-10 participants) to identify and resolve issues, repeating as needed until major issues are addressed.



Not sure how to run RTF meetings?

The Ed-Fi Alliance staff is happy to help you start these meetings up and even attend a few until your team feels comfortable.

[Ed-Fi Data Governance Playbook](#)



Parallel phase overview

Primary SEA objective: bring on 20-30% of LEAs in the state to test SEA scalability and prepare LEAs and vendors.



SEA

- The SEA runs data collections with 20-30% of LEAs in the state to scale technical and support systems
- Benchmarking the new against the current system outcomes and adjusting



LEAs

- 20-30% of LEAs are actively involved in submitting data.
- All LEAs are attending trainings and taking local readiness actions



Vendors

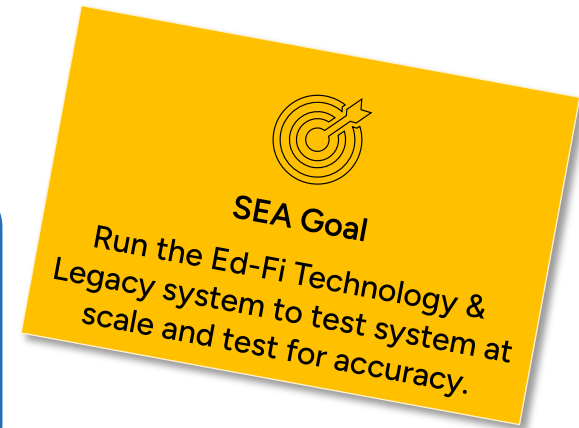
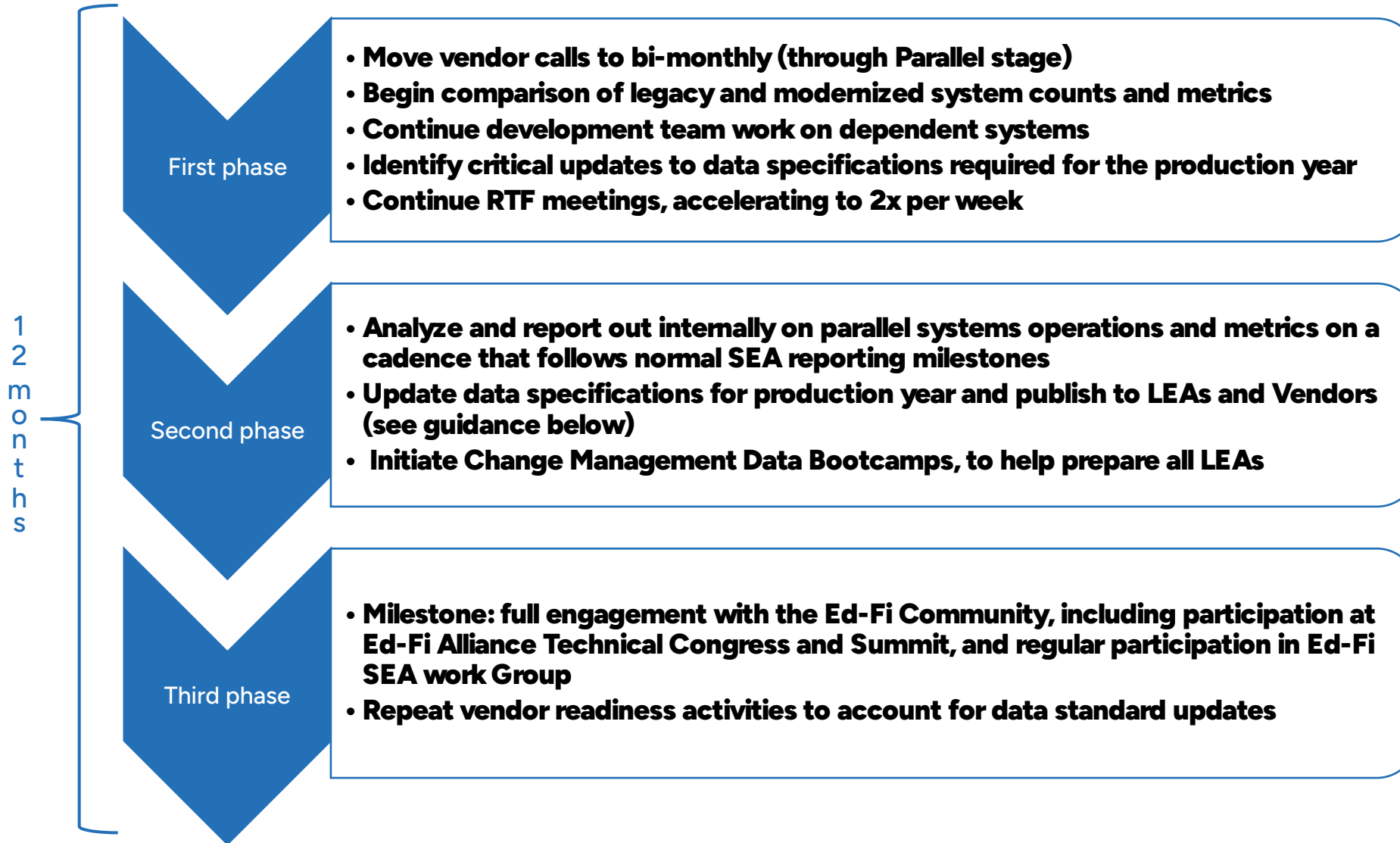
- All vendors are working to support the final data specifications
- Vendor lead LEA set-up and error handling training



ESAs (Data Hub)

- Launch initial data services and collecting initial revenue from LEAs
- Developing new data services

Parallel - SEA Tasks





Change Management

Data Bootcamp Trainings

Level 1 & Level 2 Errors can be difficult to debug, as there are multiple systems involved:

- Utilize Vendor User Group Sessions
- Review vendor API submission reports
- Review State Reporting/Validation Dashboards
- Identify Data Quality issues and re-submit data

To cut through finger-pointing and make progress, Bootcamp trainings are an **ESSENTIAL** to creating an agile state support system.

SEA-led vendor workshops bring together SEA staff, district data stewards, and a single vendor's product and technical teams (20-35 participants, supported by 3-4 facilitators) to review priorities, gather feedback, and drive improvements at scale.



Not sure how to run a Bootcamp meetings?

The Ed-Fi Alliance staff is happy to help you start these trainings up and even attend a few until your team feels comfortable.

[Ed-Fi Data Governance Playbook](#)

Congratulations – You DID it!

You are now in Production.

You can now

- ✓ **Turn off your legacy system**
- ✓ **Plan your next use case of service**

Best Practice

Technical Task Assignment

Recommendations for “Who does what?”

Task

Handle all Ed-Fi technology components: ODS, administrative tooling, hosting, config, extensions, performance test, etc.

Determine the scope of the data specifications and initial targets

Mapping your data needs into Ed-Fi data specifications

Publish and maintain an SDK for vendors

Design and development of LEA administrative interfaces

ETL/ELT to data warehouse

MSP



MSPs have specialized expertise and stay current with the Ed-Fi technical roadmap



MSPs understand Ed-Fi details and stay current with Ed-Fi Data Standard updates



MSPs are familiar with the process and tooling



MSPs have development teams and experience in this area...



MSPs often understand the latest tools and techniques available for data pipelines...

SEA Team



Requires a detailed understanding of outcomes and interacting with other teams at your organization.



...your organization likely does as well, and has been maintaining this critical UX.

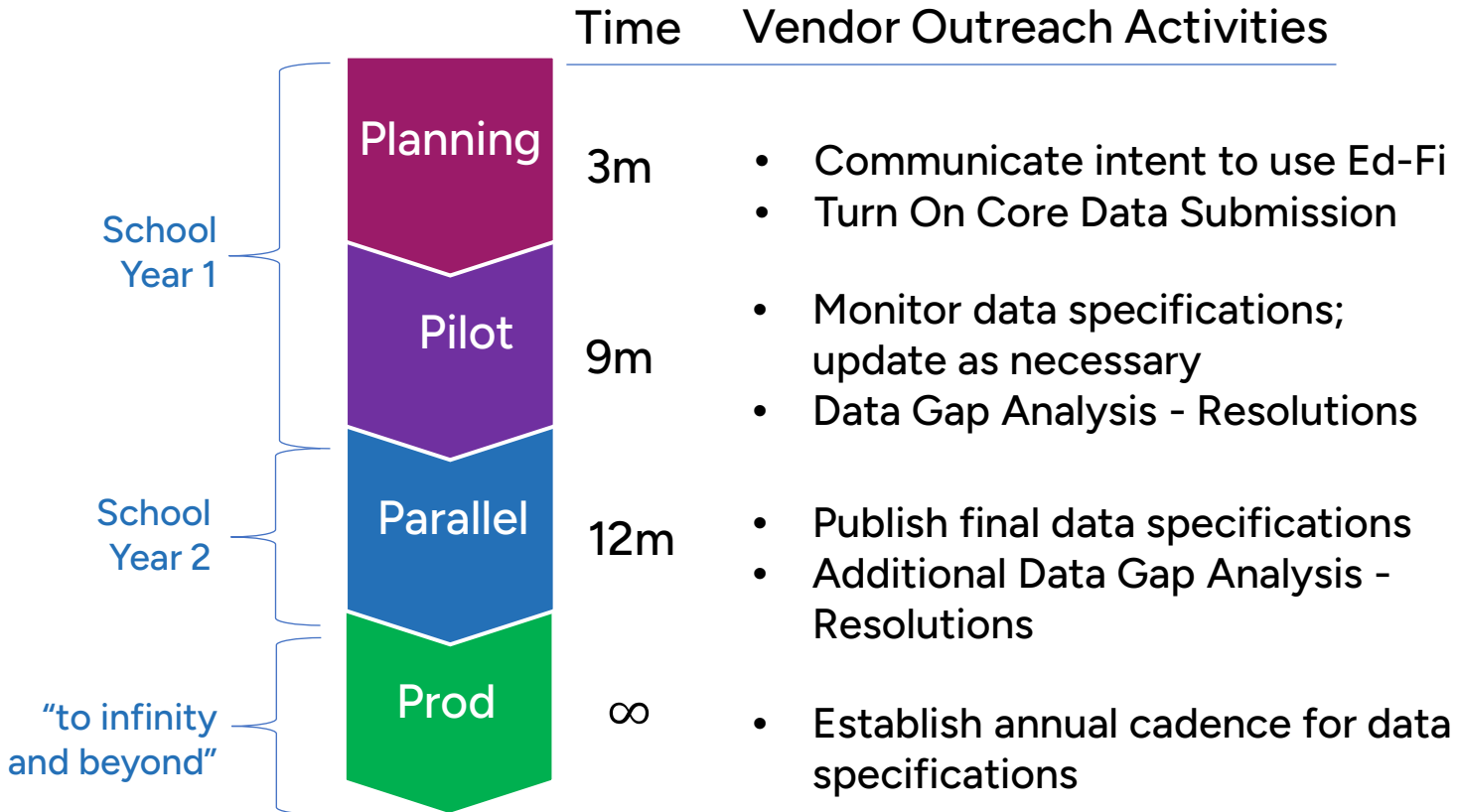


...you may want consistency with how pipelines to the DW currently operate across the organization.

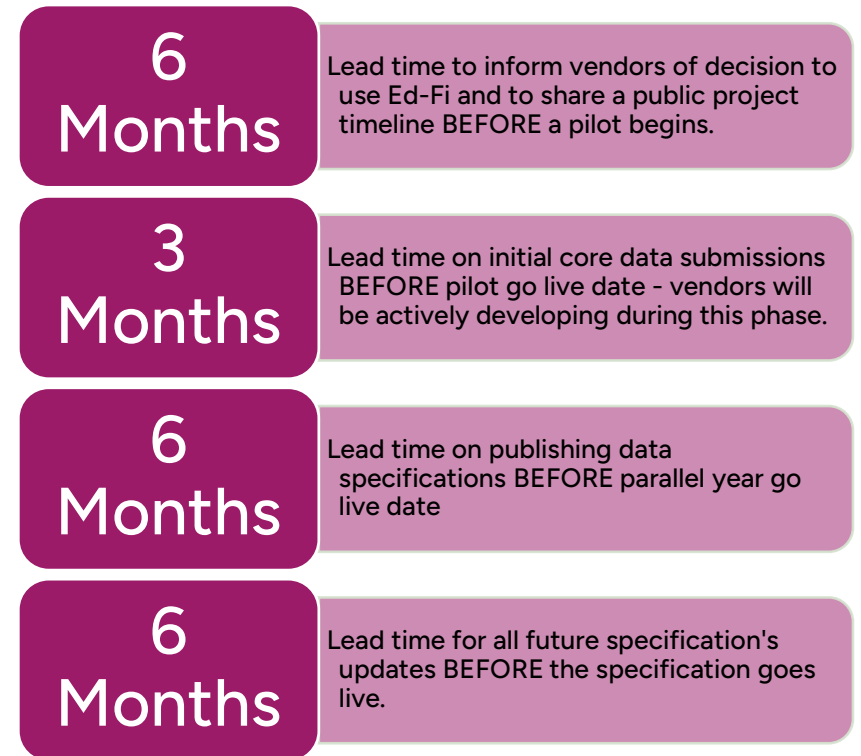
Best Practice

Options to consider

Vendor Communication



Vendor "lead-time" Best Practice from field work



Six Keys to Vendor Readiness

1

Point of Contact

Provide a clear point of contact (person/email) for all SEA-vendor communications.

2

Weekly Communication

Create weekly 1-hour calls open to the vendor community to provide project updates and answer questions.

3

Sandbox Readiness

Provide vendors [public API sandboxes and other critical resources](#) they need to build integrations.

4

Vendor Readiness

Create a public view of vendor readiness/progress during the pilot and parallel year.

5

Provide Guidance

Provide vendors the Ed-Fi Alliance guidance on [building API support into their products](#) and common error codes.

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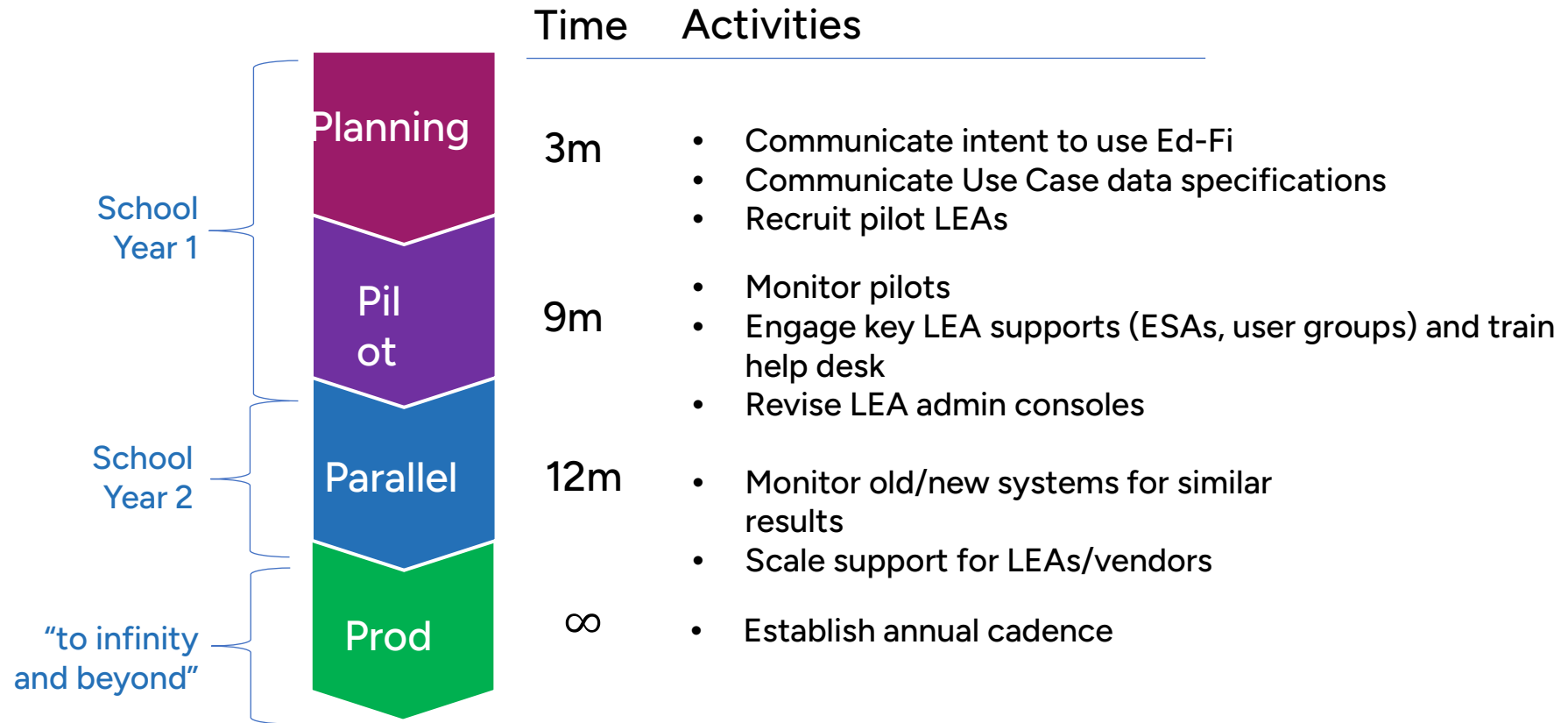
Partner Collaboration

Involve vendors in data specifications review before the specs go live. Vendors will have feedback that will improve data quality, while reducing burden on both them and you.

The End State

Live data integration is vastly more beneficial than legacy, file-based approaches, but it is also more complex. The goal of vendor support is to create a hands-on working relationship with vendors in your state that makes this integration possible.

LEA Communication



Four Keys to LEA Readiness

1

Stakeholder Engagement

Enlist the organizations or groups that currently support state reporting or SIS operations in your state

- **Some Education Service Agencies (ESAs) do this**
- **Some states have SIS User Groups (SUG)**
- **Create a group of hand-picked districts to support and train districts, peer-to-peer training**

2

Clear Documentation

Consolidate all state reporting documentation related to the Ed-Fi Data Standard and Ed-Fi API implementation into a single, easy to navigate website

See an example [here](#) from Wisconsin including links to vendor “how to” information for their products

3

Continuous Improvement

With LEA permission, provide access to API errors and performance data to allow the LEA to be part of the continuous improvement process

Again, Wisconsin provides a great example [here](#).

4

Consistent Guidance

Publish guidance on API errors codes/messages (same as published for vendors)

The State Data Portal

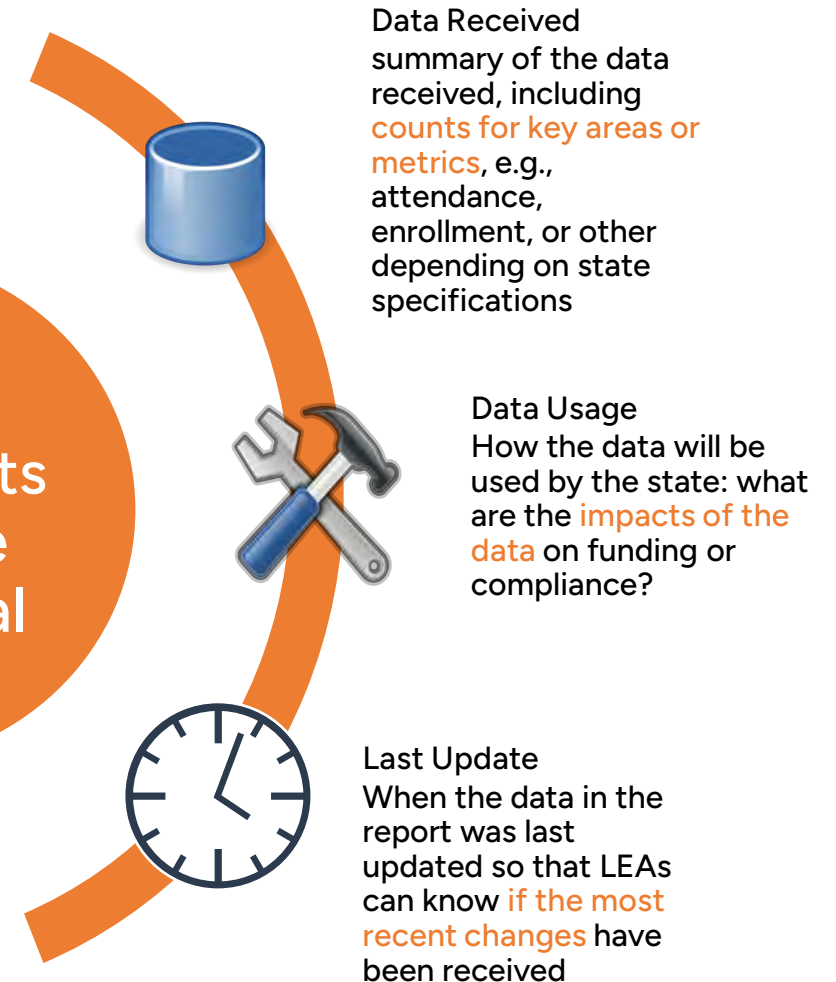
Allowing LEAs to see the data they publish to the state is critical and will reduce your support burden.

SEAs should publish – via a data portal – data back to the LEAs.

For More Information

Read more about state data portals here: [Recommended SEA Process Changes for API-based Data Collection](#)

Critical Components of a State Data Portal



We're here to answer your questions



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Thank you