



Office *of the* Auditor General

Audit of Student Software Applications

Report No. 24-02 **Confidential**
November 7, 2024

PREPARED BY: Office of the Auditor General

The Office of Auditor General (OAG) completed the performance audit of Student Software Applications in accordance with the Fiscal Year (FY) 2024 audit plan approved by the Loudoun County School Board (LCSB).

The objective of this audit was to assess the controls, policies and practices related to the types of applications that students are allowed to download on their school-issued devices. The audit covered activities from FY 2024 through August 6, 2024.

The procedures included but were not limited to the following:

- Review policies, procedures, regulations and other pertinent documents,
- Interview management and staff regarding risks and other areas of concern,
- Perform walkthroughs of the process,
- Identify any internal control weaknesses in the process,
- Monitor Gaggle alerts in real-time, which are sent simultaneously to both Central Office and school-based administrators, and
- Test student access controls and monitoring tools using Chromebooks with K-12 accounts.

In accordance with Virginia Code Section § 2.2-3705.2(14)(b), “Vulnerability assessments, information not lawfully available to the public regarding specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities, or security plans and measures of an entity, facility, building structure, information technology system, or software program,” is excluded from the mandatory disclosure provisions of this chapter but may be disclosed by the custodian in his discretion, except where such disclosure is prohibited by law.

Further, in accordance with Virginia Code Section § 2.2-3711(A)(19), public bodies may hold closed meetings for “Discussion of plans to protect public safety as it relates to terrorist activity or specific cybersecurity threats or vulnerabilities and briefings by staff members, legal counsel, or law enforcement or emergency service officials concerning actions taken to respond to such matters or a related threat to public safety; discussion of information subject to the exclusion in subdivision 2 or 14 of § 2.2-3705.2, where discussion in an open meeting would jeopardize the safety of any person or the security of any facility, building, structure, information technology system, or software program; or discussion of reports or plans related to the security of any governmental facility, building or structure, or the safety of persons using such facility, building or structure.”

The findings of this audit will remain confidential in accordance with the above Virginia Code Sections.

