

Gates-funded student data group to shut down

April 21 2014

The head of a student data processing organization says it will shut down in the coming months following criticism that led to the recent loss of its last active client—New York state.

The Atlanta-based nonprofit inBloom was started with \$100 million in financing from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and Carnegie Corp.

The goal was to give educators a data tool to personalize instruction. But the idea of storing sensitive student data in cloud-based servers had parents and <u>lawmakers</u> worried about privacy and security.

Earlier this month, New York backed out of plans to use inBloom. Illinois was allowing districts to use it, but none had.

In a statement Monday, Chief Executive Iwan Streichenberger called its demise a "missed opportunity" for teachers and <u>school districts</u>.

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