



## **Choice Solutions Selected to Develop Washington State's K-12 Statewide Longitudinal Data System**

An evolution from a state-level “allocation and compliance” data system  
to an “education improvement” data system.

**Washington – June 20, 2011** – The utilization and management of student data will become much easier, thanks to a recently signed agreement.

The Washington State Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), which leads, supports and oversees K-12 education in the state, has selected Choice Solutions to build its K-12 Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS). The agreement was signed in February 2011.

Historically, Washington State's education information collection systems, like most states, have been used mainly for the following:

- to establish funding allocations;
- to meet federal reporting requirements;
- to monitor compliance with state and federal regulations
- to document educator certification; and
- to ensure fiscal accountability.

Data collection systems for individual programs were created and maintained in different and isolated data systems, where linking and analyzing joined data was cumbersome and in some cases not possible.

With improvements in computing systems, it is now technically possible to collect, transmit, store, analyze, and report student, financial, and educator data in ways that could not be imagined 20 years ago. The improvements will allow Washington State to move to a system that collects high quality data that explains how *individual students* are doing *over time*.

Choice Solutions Inc. is the most successful SLDS provider in education. Choice Solutions has built SLDS's for more than 12 state department of education. The result: a flexible enterprise education solution for optimized reporting, accountability and secure, delegated access called edFusion™.

“This system will support the evolution of OSPI's relationship with school districts from a focus on procedural compliance to one that focuses on educational results.”, said Srinivas Kallakurchi, President of Choice Solutions Inc. “We're proud to partner with OSPI to jointly usher their system infrastructure into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.”

The OSPI SLDS is being developed with funds from a federal SLDS grant Washington earned in April 2009. In addition to enabling data-driven decisions to improve student learning, the project will facilitate research to increase student achievement and close achievement gaps. Moreover, new tools and reports are to be created that incorporate financial, educator, and student data for purposes of improving instruction, improving the cost-effectiveness of programs, and increasing accountability.

This project marks OSPI's evolution from using a state-level “allocation and compliance” data system to an “education improvement” data system. There is much work to be done in identifying what type of information is most useful, improving the quality of currently available data, technical enhancements in software design, collecting additional data if needed, and tackling an array of other funding, policy, and technical challenges. Washington OSPI and Choice Solutions are poised to meet those challenges, head on.



### **About Choice Solutions, Inc.**

Choice Solutions is an end-to-end global Enterprise IT Service and Solutions provider focusing on answers for Education that meet the needs of today while planning for the challenges of tomorrow. Choice Solutions boasts over 10 years of Education information systems experience in local, state, and federal arenas, and has grown this company as the premier leader when the need for enterprise caliber implementations and services arise. Engaged with over 13 state departments of Education and countless districts and regions, Choice Solutions and its national group of strategic partners bring the knowledge, passion, and skills essential to drive success in the business of teaching and learning. Visit [www.ChoiceP20.com](http://www.ChoiceP20.com).

### **About OSPI**

The Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) is the primary agency charged with overseeing K-12 education in Washington State. Led by State School Superintendent Randy Dorn, OSPI works with the state's 295 school districts and nine educational service districts to administer basic education programs and implement education reform on behalf of more than one million public school students.