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# Press Release

## inBloom Inc. Launches to Enable Personalized Learning Through Easier Access to Information and Tec

*New nonprofit organization is working with nine states representing more than 11 million students, with support from a wide range of technology companies.*

ATLANTA – Feb. 5, 2013 – 9 a.m. EST – Today the Shared Learning Collaborative (SLC) announced the launch of inBloom Inc., a provider of technology services aimed at connecting data, applications and people that work together to create better opportunities for educators.

Currently, school districts are racing to adapt materials and assessments for the [Common Core State Standards \(/web/20131024182132/http://www.corestandards.org/\)](http://www.corestandards.org/), and publishers are working to keep up with new academic requirements. At the same time, educators are inundated with an escalating amount of data and technology in multiple formats, creating a disjointed system that makes it extremely difficult for teachers to tailor instruction, curriculum and learning approaches to meet the needs and aspirations of individual learners.

“Education technology and data need to work better together to fulfill their potential for students and teachers,” said [Iwan Streichenberger \(/web/20131024182132/http://www.inbloom.org/management#iwan-streichenberger\)](http://www.inbloom.org/management#iwan-streichenberger), CEO of inBloom Inc. “Until now, the problem has often been too expensive for states and districts, but inBloom is easing that burden and ushering in a new era of personalized learning.”

The inBloom™ data integration and content search services enrich learning applications by connecting them to systems and inBloom currently live in a variety of different places and formats while helping to reduce costs for states and districts. This comprehensive view of a student’s history can help those involved in education — from teachers to administrators to parents — see students’ progress, understand how they might do better and act quickly to help each student succeed. It also helps educators locate standards-aligned instructional materials from multiple providers and match them with their students’ needs.

“inBloom lets us compile and access assessment data from more than a dozen different systems,” said Tom Stella, assistant superintendent of schools, Everett, Mass. “This information, paired with relevant content that maps to a student’s individual needs, helps maximize a student’s learning potential by letting them focus on in-class teaching and learning.”

In addition, the inBloom framework enables technology providers to develop and deploy products without having to build custom integrations for each state and district data source. This means more developers will have the opportunity to create new and powerful applications for students, with lower implementation costs and faster time-to-market.

Twenty-one [education technology companies \(/web/20131024182132/http://www.inbloom.org/providers\)](http://www.inbloom.org/providers) have already announced they will develop applications that will work with inBloom through the service’s open application programming interface (API). Many of these will be demonstrated at [SXSWedu \(/web/20131024182132/http://www.sxswedu.com/\)](http://www.sxswedu.com/) in Austin, Texas, March 4–7.



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Education, New York; and Guilford County Schools, North Carolina.

Student data privacy is a top priority for inBloom, and protections for student privacy, including compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), have been addressed throughout the design and ongoing operations of the services. InBloom worked with districts and a panel of [student privacy and security experts](http://web/20131024182132/https://www.inbloom.org/privacy-c) to create the policy that governs its handling of sensitive data.

#### About the Shared Learning Collaborative

The Shared Learning Collaborative is an alliance of states, districts, educators, foundations and content and tool providers passionate about using technology to improve education. The SLC developed all the inBloom software components and has worked with education technologists and developers to encourage the development of inBloom-compatible applications.

#### About inBloom Inc.

inBloom Inc. is a nonprofit organization established to carry forward the mission of the Shared Learning Collaborative, which is to make personalized learning a reality for every U.S. student. inBloom provides technology services that allow states and public schools to integrate student data and learning applications to support sustainable, cost-effective personalized learning. inBloom is funded by philanthropic support from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation and Carnegie Corporation of New York. For more information, visit [www.inBloom.org](http://www.inbloom.org/).