What data is collected?
Basic student information and student test scores are collected. Basic student information includes the student’s name, Alaska student ID number, and specific demographic information. EED does not collect sensitive information such as physical addresses, mailing addresses, or Social Security numbers.

How does EED use the data?
Individual student data is provided to each school district to inform instruction and set a benchmark from which future student progress may be measured at the local level. Aggregated data is used to report on the overall performance of groups of students. These aggregate reports fulfill EED’s reporting requirements under state and federal law without the need to identify individual students.

How the data will not be used!
EED does not report individual student data to the federal government or private parties. Individual student information is not utilized by third-party vendors to solicit goods and services. When data groups are small enough that individual students could be identified, suppression rules are applied. When applied, scores will appear as a range (e.g., 60% or more, 40% or fewer) or with a note stating that there are too few students to allow for reporting.

What does EED do to protect student data?
Within EED, only the Assessments staff and the Information Technology staff have direct access to individual student data. These staff are well versed in FERPA, the federal law that governs individual student data in much the same way as HIPAA does with medical records. Data received from the testing vendor and school districts are transmitted using secured connections and stored within EED’s secure data servers. Likewise, any individual student data that needs to be transmitted from EED is sent via encrypted e-mail or through a secure data connection.