

K-12 Cyber Roundup: Disruptions, Data Breaches, Financial Loss

Jan – June 2020

Disruptions

Student accounts were disabled after administrators discovered 14 student accounts were accessed by outside IP addresses.

Duluth, MN / Jun 2020 / [Story](#)

Jay Public Schools experienced a cyber attack that **spread from one computer to the district server causing them to shut down their systems.**

Jay, OK / Mar 2020 / [Story](#)

Spartanburg County school district employees were **unable to access the network or the internet** after a ransomware attack.

Spartanburg, SC / Mar 2020 / [Story](#)

Gadsden Independent School District was **forced to shut down their network** after being hit with Ryuk ransomware. Data was expected to be **locked for at least a week.**

El Paso, TX / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Ransomware **shut down all South Adams Schools District's systems, including heating and security systems** for a short time.

Berne, IN / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

The Columbus County school system required **weeks of help from the National Guard to recover** their systems after a cyber attack. It cost the school district **\$900K.**

Columbus, NC / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Teachers and staff were **locked out of their computers and phone lines were shut down** in a ransomware attack.

Los Altos, CA / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

A ransomware attack **disabled multiple laptops and computers.**

Crystal Lake, IL / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Report cards were delayed when the network and phone systems went down due to a ransomware attack.

Bakersfield, CA / Jan 2020 / [Story](#)

Every school, office, and most services in the district were affected by a ransomware attack.

Contra Costa, CA / Jan 2020 / [Story](#)

Schools were **forced to close for two days** when a ransomware attack **affected phones, copiers, classroom technology, and heating systems.**

Richmond, MI / Jan 2020 / [Story](#)

Vernon schools went **without access to email or the internet** for at least one day as officials investigated a cyber attack.

Vernon, CT / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Jackson Public Schools **shut down their network after their systems were locked** by a possible ransomware attack.

Jackson, MS / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Hundreds of computers were shut down for days following a ransomware attack.

Nacogdoches, TX / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Havre Public School's network was shut down for a week as it recovered from a Ryuk ransomware attack.

Havre, MT / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Data Breaches

A school **email listserv was breached** and explicit messages were sent to high school students.

DeWitt, NY / Jun 2020 / [Story](#)

A second grader in the Palm Beach County School District was able to **hack into all students' accounts after figuring out the password naming convention used for student**

passwords. Over **176,000 students** were potentially affected.

Palm Beach, FL / May 2020 / [Story](#)

A hacker accessed Chapel Hill-Carrboro Schools' email system and **sent an email posing as administration.**

Chapel Hill, NC / May 2020 / [Story](#)

New York City schools banned the videoconferencing app Zoom after **multiple hacks including “zoombombings,” hijacking of webcams and the sharing of student information with third parties like Facebook.**

New York City, NY / Apr 2020 / [Story](#)

Unauthorized access to sensitive information and photos went on for months in a G-Suite for Education environment.

Hillsboro, MO / Mar 2020 / [Story](#)

A third-party compromised in a phishing attack affected **658 Brunswick County**

Schools employees. Compromised information included **names, addresses, dates of birth, and social security numbers.**

Brunswick, NC / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

The same third-party breach that affected Brunswick also affected Lincoln County School employees. **Names and social security numbers** were affected.

Lincoln, NC / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Torrey Pines High School **online grading system was breached.**

San Diego, CA / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

Financial Loss

San Felipe Del Rio Consolidated Independent School District fell victim to a **BEC wire fraud scam** that cost them **over \$2M.**

Del Rio, TX / Feb 2020 / [Story](#)

The Manor Independent School District fell victim to a **wire fraud phishing scam** that resulted in the loss of **\$2.3M.**

Manor, TX / Jan 2020 / [Story](#)