Cybersecurity Planning

33rd Annual School Law Conference

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Major Cyber Attacks in 2017

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MASSIVE BUG MAY HAVE LEAKED USER DATA FROM MILLIONS OF SITES. SO … CHANGE YOUR PASSWORDS

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Cyber Attacks Against Schools

- In 2017, an entire school district in Montana was shut down by a cybersecurity attack which involved hackers sending threatening text messages to staff and students.
- In March 2016, hackers stole the personal data of employees and students at Tidewater Community College in Virginia and used the data to file false tax returns.
- In May 2015, hackers compromised the information of 18,000 people at Penn State.
- In March 2014, a cyber attack on a North Dakota University System server resulted in the compromise of names and social security numbers of nearly 300,000 past and current students.
- In February 2014, about 310,00 past and current faculty and student records (including names, birthdates, and social security numbers) were compromised at the University of Maryland by a data breach.

Keys to the Kingdom

- Schools and colleges hold some of the most sensitive personal and financial information of its employees and students.
- Hackers know this—and try to target and monetize these troves of valuable information.
- Practitioners have a duty to prevent loss of the information—including by inadvertent exposure and data breaches.
- Failure to protect the information can have costly results.

Risks to Data

- Inadvertent exposure by employees
  - Lost devices
  - Server misconfigurations
- Employee malfeasance
- Hackers and state sponsored threats
  - Zero-day exploits
  - Watering hole attacks
  - Spear-phishing
  - Malware/ransomware
- Hacktivists

Ethical Obligations

Title search: Cybersecurity Planning

Also available as part of the eCourse
[2018 School Law eConference](#)

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