



# Cybersecurity and Data Privacy

In the Great Neck Public Schools



**Board of Education Meeting  
December 16, 2019**

Marc Epstein, District Technology Director



# What is Cybersecurity?

- The protection of Internet-connected systems and data from accidental damage, intentional attacks, or unauthorized access.
- Systems include networks, servers, computers and other hardware and software.
- Data includes user-generated content and personally identifiable information.



# What Is Data Privacy?

- How an organization determines the authorized access of the data it stores to be shared with third parties.
- How an organization complies with the legal requirements of how it handles information.
- How an organization handles the public expectation of data privacy and breaches.

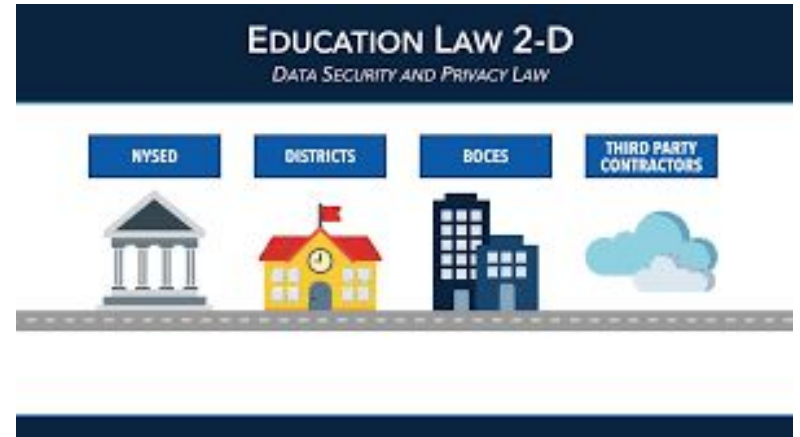


# Why are we Talking About Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Now?

## Ransomware



## Education Law 2-D



# What Is Ransomware?



- A type of malware virus that encrypts computer systems and locks user files illegally.
- It is usually delivered via malicious Web ads or via spam scams that trick users into clicking an illegitimate email file attachment or link.
- Ransom payments are demanded in order to regain access with a decryption key.



# Ransomware in the News



## Rockville Centre pays almost \$100G to hackers after ransomware attack, officials say



**Newsday: Rockville Centre pays almost \$100G to hackers after ransomware attack, officials say**

# Ransomware in the News



## Cyberthreats Become Disruption in Connecticut Schools

By Dan Corcoran • Published at 12:48 pm on February 5, 2018



Connecticut school districts are increasingly becoming the target of cyber criminals and these attacks can become a major disruption in classrooms.

## NBC CT: Cyberthreats Become Disruption in Connecticut Schools



# Ransomware in the News



## Louisiana declares state emergency after cyberattacks on school districts

BY MAGGIE MILLER - 07/26/19 02:44 PM EDT

95 COMMENT



© Getty Images

Louisiana Gov. John Bel Edwards (D) declared a state-wide emergency this week following cyberattacks on several school districts.

**The Hill: Louisiana declares state emergency after cyberattacks on school districts**





# Ransomware Statistics



- Over 500 US schools were hit with ransomware in 2019. \*
- Map of U.S. Ransomware Attacks. ^
  - ◆ U.S. medical, educational, and governmental organizations.

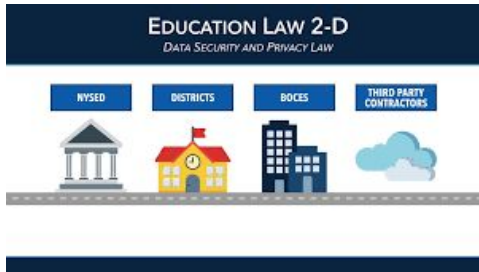


\* [Source:](#) Armor Cybersecurity, September 26, 2019

^ [Source:](#) PC Matic Antivirus, October 15, 2019



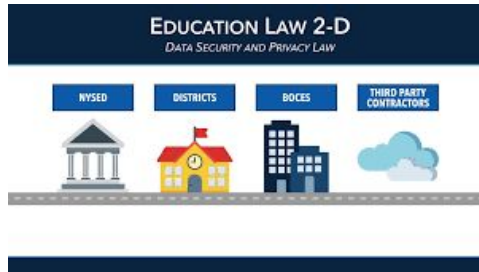
# What Is Ed. Law § 2-d?



- **Went Into Effect in April 2014.**
- ◆ Prohibits the unauthorized release of personally identifiable student, teacher, or administrator data.
  - ◆ Requires Parents' Bill of Rights for Data Privacy and Security.
  - ◆ Requires Software Supplement.
  - ◆ Requires both of the above to be posted on school district websites.
  - ◆ Implementation regulations have been under development since then but have not yet been approved and released by NYSED.



## When Will Ed. Law § 2-d Regulations be Finalized?



- Implementation regulations are anticipated Winter 2020 and will include many requirements.
- ◆ Designate Data Protection Officer.
  - ◆ Adopt data privacy and security policy.
  - ◆ Develop action plan to implement NIST Cybersecurity Framework.
  - ◆ Inventory third-party contracts.
  - ◆ Provide data privacy and security training to all staff.
  - ◆ Develop parent complaint procedures and logs.
  - ◆ Develop incident reporting forms.



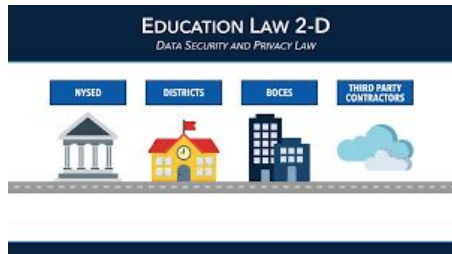
# What Cybersecurity Measures Have We Implemented?



- Regularly update software versions.
- Regularly update antivirus definitions.
- Utilize spam and web filtering.
- Regularly send spam scam warnings to district staff to raise awareness.
- Created second location for backups.
- Implemented two new firewalls.
- Developed Disaster Recovery Plan.
- Purchased Cyberinsurance that includes extortion protection.
- Increased password change frequency and complexity for all user accounts.



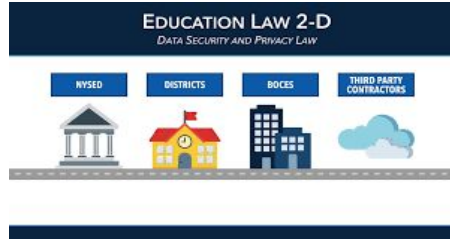
# What Data Privacy Measures Have We Implemented?



- **Created Board Policies**
  - ◆ Acceptable Use Policy #4526
  - ◆ Internet Publishing #5221
  - ◆ Student Records #5500
  - ◆ Student Privacy #5550
  - ◆ Parents Bill of Rights #5550-E
  - ◆ Information Security Breach #8635
  
- **Joined Nassau BOCES Data Privacy and Security Service**
  - ◆ Software Inventory Tool
  - ◆ 3rd Party Data Privacy Policies
  - ◆ Data Privacy meetings
  - ◆ Cybersecurity news updates
  - ◆ Access to online training



# What are our Future Cybersecurity and Data Privacy Needs?



- **Staffing Recommendations**
- ◆ Restore Tech. Aide I (2019-20)
  - ◆ Promote technician to focus on network security (2019-20).
  - ◆ Restore North High Tech. Staff Developer to 1.0 FTE (2020-21).
  - ◆ Appoint Coordinator of Information Systems as Data Protection Officer (2020-21).

- **System Recommendations**
- ◆ Purchase off-network and off-site cloud backup solution (2019-20).
  - ◆ Purchase staff Cybersecurity training solution (2020-21).



# Cybersecurity and Data Privacy

In the Great Neck Public Schools



Questions and Comments Welcome!