

# Rising threats: navigating the surge of cybersecurity challenges in K-12 schools

K-12 schools are the single most targeted industry for ransomware attacks



**80%**

of K-12 schools were targeted by ransomware in 2023

Cyber attacks are so prevalent at K-12 schools that, on average, there is more than one incident per school day.



**Over 500**

successful ransomware attacks were reported from 2021 to 2023



**70% surge**

in attacks targeting K-12 organizations from 2022 to 2023



## Top K-12 cyber threats



1. Ransomware attacks
2. Student data breaches
3. Online class and school meeting invasions

## Additionally

lower education organizations are the most likely, across all sectors, to report halting normal operations.

## Impacts of a school cyber attack



Classroom disruption and learning loss




Financial damage



Reputational damage

The monetary losses to school districts following a cyber incident range from **\$50,000 to \$1 million**.

## How to strengthen cybersecurity in K-12 schools

-  Require Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) for all logins.
-  Use strong, unique passwords and change them on a regular basis. A password manager can help with this.
-  Actively monitor network and devices for suspicious activity.
-  Back up critical data and do regular testing on your backups.
-  Protect your most sensitive systems and data with Privileged Access Management (PAM).
-  Implement regular cybersecurity training and phishing awareness training for all staff.

With cyber attacks on the rise in education, cybersecurity needs to be prioritized at K-12 schools at **all organizational levels**.



Keeper Security Government Cloud (KSGC) password manager and privileged access manager is FedRAMP and StateRAMP Authorized, and enables schools to achieve complete visibility, security, control and reporting across every user, on every device.

KSGC is cloud based, enables zero-trust and zero-knowledge security and helps public sector organizations meet compliance mandates by unifying three integral solutions into one unified platform – enterprise-grade password, secrets and privileged connection management.

To learn more about how to protect your school against cyber attacks, visit [KeeperSecurity.com](https://KeeperSecurity.com)



FedRAMP



StateRAMP