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Schools Among the Most Sought After Cyber Targets

When it comes to finding a one-stop shopping experience for a cybercriminal it's hard to find a better target than an educational institution.

What makes these organizations such an inviting target is schools, both those of higher education and local school districts, hold in one place all the types of data prized by hackers, health care information, student and employee personally identifiable information (PII), research and even payment card data, according to a report by ESET researcher Lisa Myers.

Myers listed a number of basic security steps educational organizations should take to secure the data to which they are entrusted, including updating installed software, network segmentation, require stronger authentication and authorization and encryption. But focusing on the human aspect of the equation maybe the most important.

“With research showing that 52% of data breaches is a result of user error, it is important to make it mandatory for employees to take part in some sort of cyber education, she wrote.