

For Immediate Release

May 7, 2025

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Media Release

Charleston County School District Provides Update on July 2024 Cybersecurity Incident

Office of Communications

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Charleston, SC – Charleston County School District (CCSD) is providing an important update regarding a cybersecurity incident that occurred in July 2024. After a thorough investigation conducted in partnership with external cybersecurity experts, CCSD can now confirm that the incident was the result of unauthorized access by a cybercriminal group known as RansomHub.

The incident, which occurred between July 16 and July 19, 2024, impacted a total of 20,653 individuals, including both students and staff, dating back to 2005. Upon discovery, CCSD acted immediately to contain the threat, secure its network, and initiate a detailed forensic review. While the district does not publicly disclose specific vulnerabilities or methods used in the breach, we can confirm that the exploited vulnerability has been fully remediated, and our systems have undergone significant security upgrades to prevent future incidents. CCSD did not pay a ransom or engage in negotiations with the threat actors at any point.

The personal information compromised in the breach varied by individual. In order to ensure the highest degree of accuracy and limit unnecessary concern, CCSD completed an exhaustive review to identify and notify only those individuals whose information was actually affected.

Notifications were recently mailed directly to impacted individuals and included specific details on the types of information involved, along with tailored guidance. To support those affected, CCSD is offering complimentary identity protection services, including credit monitoring, identity theft recovery assistance, and a \$1,000,000 insurance reimbursement policy.

Impacted individuals who received a letter are encouraged to take advantage of the complimentary protection services offered and to contact the dedicated call center with any questions.

If you have any questions regarding this incident or need assistance, please call 1-877-522-6813 as IDX representatives are available between 9:00 am to 9:00 pm Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is a nationally accredited school district committed to providing equitable and quality educational opportunities for all its students. CCSD is the second-largest school system in South Carolina and represents a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools spanning 1,300 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves approximately 50,000 students in 88 schools and specialized programs.

CCSD offers a diverse portfolio of educational options and specialized programs delivered to the students of CCSD through neighborhood, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), Montessori, and charter schools and programs. Rich educational opportunities for students include programs in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM); music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; military; dual credit; and many more.