



A Broadband Awareness Initiative from the [Iowa Communications Network](#)



School's in session: 7 considerations to secure your system

The start of a new school year is a good time to double-check your online set-up to make sure the kids can take their classes while you take care of business.

Source: Federal Trade Commission

CYBERSECURITY

Education

[Where Georgia Parents Turn When Kids Can't Attend School Online](#)

A nonprofit organization is one of hundreds of after-school providers, child-care centers, churches & community groups to open digital learning hubs throughout that state.
Source: Center for Digital Education

[How Can School Leaders Support Engaging Remote Education?](#)

There isn't a single solution. But providing equitable access to devices, Wi-Fi and quality professional development is key.
Source: EdTech K-12

[Reopening Higher Education Campuses—And The Social Distancing Tech That Can Help](#)

Some reopened campuses already have several hundred infections. But as of late August, Millersville University had zero cases. What did it do right?
Source: EdTech Higher Ed

[Get Your Copy of the 2020-21 Practical Ed Tech Handbook](#)

Source: Byrne Instructional Media
An updated version of the Practical Ed Tech Handbook is published at the start of every school year. This year there is a section about accessibility, a section of time-saving tips, and a section of tips about remote instruction, in addition to the usual sections about making videos, using AR & VR in education, teaching search strategies, digital citizenship, assessment tools and methods, and programming.

[How to Protect School Systems from Ransomware Attacks](#)

Ransomware attacks have increased in volume and speed, and their impact has become much more significant as many schools continue online instruction.
Source: EdTech K-12

Cybersecurity

[How to implement a successful cybersecurity plan](#)

Are you starting a cybersecurity plan from scratch? Check our list of essential steps to make it a

successful one.

Source: CIO

[Cybercrime has been predicted to rise regardless of the pandemic](#)

As our lives move to digital spaces faster due to the pandemic, what new challenges arise?

Source: CyberNews

[All the VPN terms you need to know](#)

When deciding on a VPN service, the following terms can help you navigate the field and understand what a provider offers. This VPN glossary gives you useful terms and what they mean for your privacy.

Source: CNET

[How to fend off cyberattacks and data breaches](#)

Experts in online security and data protection explain how smaller businesses can prevent security breaches and digital attacks.

Source: CIO

[What a year of penetration testing data can reveal about the state of cybersecurity](#)

Rapid7 made particular mention of three common problems

Source: TechRepublic

[Pandemic giving ransomware 'greater attack surface' as tactics shift](#)

The attack styles have shifted again to also include the theft and potential exposure of victims' sensitive data.

Source: State Scoop

Healthcare

[Expanding Telehealth During a Pandemic: How 4 Health Systems Did It](#)

Faced with unprecedented challenges, hospitals leverage a variety of tools and strategies to meet a vast need for virtual care.

Source: HealthTech Magazine

[What to Consider When Choosing Your Backup Solution](#)

Modern backup systems offer organizations more than data protection. They also cut costs and enhance productivity.

Source: HealthTech Magazine

[Will Telemedicine Make Medical Offices Obsolete?](#)

Telehealth usage outside of Medicare and Medicaid increased 4,347% on a national level between March 2019 and March 2020.

Source: The Motley Fool

Digital Divide

[Code for Baltimore Connects City with Seniors amid Crisis](#)

Health officials are using a computer system created by a corps of volunteer programmers to automatically email and text facilities to assess needs and provide info.

Source: Government Technology

[Case Study: Chicago Connected](#)

Providing high-speed Internet access to students who need it the most.

Source: Education SuperHighway

[Tennessee School Board Considers Investing in Internet for Students](#)

Two agenda items on this week's Hamilton Co, TN, Schools board meeting are aimed at closing digital gaps specifically helping low-income students access digital learning.

Source: Government Technology

[Allentown, Pa., District Buys Wi-Fi Hot Spots for Students](#)

In an effort to narrow the digital divide, Allentown School District will purchase 3,500 hotspots to help provide Internet access for students as they begin the school year.

Source: Center for Digital Education

[Delaware to Spend \\$20 Million in CARES Funding on Broadband](#)

The State of Delaware will build more broadband infrastructure, conduct a speed test survey across its communities and help prepare students and teachers for distance learning.

Source: Government Technology

Public Safety

[See how signal strength and speed testing revealed the benefits of @FirstNet to Gainesville Fire Rescue in Florida](#)

Operating in an urban city while also responding to rural areas means Gainesville Fire Rescue responders need access to secure and reliable communications.

Source: FirstNet

[Buncombe County, NC upgrades 911 system, improves location accuracy](#)

The statewide deployment of Next Generation 911 (NG911) means more ways to communicate during an emergency, improved location accuracy and more.

Source: Mountain Xpress

The Iowa Communications Network is a state-of-the-art fiber optic network providing [high-speed Internet, data, voice, security, and consulting services](#) to Iowa's healthcare, education, government, and public safety sectors.