

**Cybersecurity Breakout Session Notes: Compilation**  
**Tech Townhall #1**  
**11 APR 2022**

Is there potential with this program? Please elaborate.

- Yes, we all have pieces in place and are in progress with other pieces. Programs from the state funding would open budget for other priorities. If we are already using other similar (or the same products), do we qualify or would it be reimbursed? How would future renewals work. Can we continue to use or own selected resources or do we have to use what is selected by the state
- We need to know more to make an informed decision. Such as:
  - To qualify for these grants, do we have to complete a security assessment (such as The Trust Safety Assessment)?
  - Are there prerequisites to qualify or renew with the program?
  - If I already have systems in place before July 1 or the grant is issued, how will I be able to transition to these other programs?
  - Do we need to build intergovernmental agreements based on how our agencies are working with one another?
- Yes, with additional learning opportunities - training from an additional entity.
- Not everyone's responsibility to educate students - it would be nice to have all of that cohesiveness throughout the school... they could use some assistance as well - understaffed. Not a member of TheTrust... not sure if they were approved for cybersecurity insurance.
- Most schools did not know of this. Having the resources would be hugely helpful. This is a huge chunk of the school budget. Financial and staff resources are quite limited. It takes a lot of time.
- Michigan state - they offered counties and cities a small portion of funding because they didn't have the expertise or people or time to do it. Check out what they do.
- The expertise and funding are really needed.

Are there benefits to LEAs? Please elaborate.

- Build communities of practice around procedures and products. Having a common practice would be enormous. More buying power is amazing.
- Speaking from a small district - they use contracted security services, TheTrust, the county education agency - having an outside organization that blends it all together would be grateful. We have their liability insurance from TheTrust.
- How long would this last? Short-term is not a solution, a bandaid, but not a solution.

What are the pros and cons?

- Less choice?
- Pool/combine training resources
- Will we be able to grow connections with other government/security sectors that work closely with homeland security
- Potential loss of local control
- Sustainability. The beginning of this grant program started four years and has grown year over year - this is targeting K12 districts... this is given directly to USHS coming to their budget and the expectation is that this would increase year after year. Federal grant coming soon as well. They are looking to build in vendor support into these products as well.
- How long would this last? Short-term is not a solution, a bandaid, but not a solution.

What does ADE/Az Dept of Homeland Security need to know?

- We want and need support on MFA
- Homeland Security needs someone on their team to be a close liaison with the education sector. Someone who knows our challenges, needs, etc. Someone who knows the k-12 IT departments AND teachers/staff
- We need roadmaps and perspective for technical and classrooms. Differences between elementary and highschool needs, too.
- CloudStrike is the way to go... especially if there is a grant that will pay for it
- Question about Ryan's survey - if the organization had security features and what they are - are these the main priorities?
- It would be helpful to have some examples - some examples of issues that have happened, how to handle it.
- From a teacher stand point - training is needed for teachers to know how to keep kids safe. The educational piece is important - it only takes one user to start the attack. Awareness and education is a big part of it. What does that look like? Whatever tools are selected, there needs to be an education piece at all levels.
- We're preaching to the choir - hardest thing to do is go to the admin. Something is needed from ADE level to administrators. How to get administrators to understand.
- The trust did a good job with this...
- Reaching out to Educational Service Agencies/ office of county superintendents. This organization would be great to present to. They meet quarterly or so.