



Ohio House Bill 96: What It Means for Your District

New Cybersecurity Requirements for Public Entities



Ohio House Bill 96 (HB 96) establishes mandatory cybersecurity requirements for all public entities, including K-12 school districts. This marks a shift from recommended best practices to legally required cybersecurity programs.

What HB 96 Requires

Your district must implement and maintain a formal cybersecurity program aligned to recognized frameworks such as NIST Cybersecurity Framework (CSF) or CIS Controls.

Cybersecurity Program

- Documented program to protect systems and data
- Focus on confidentiality, integrity, and availability

Risk Identification & Management

- Inventory of systems and data
- Identification and prioritization of cyber risks

Threat Detection & Response

- Ability to detect cybersecurity events
- Defined incident response processes

Incident Reporting

- Report cybersecurity incidents to the State of Ohio
- Required within 7 days of confirmation

Ransomware Governance

- Restrictions on ransomware payments
- Formal approval process required before payment

Why This Matters

HB 96 is not just about cybersecurity—it's about accountability and defensibility.

In the event of a cyber incident, districts must be able to demonstrate:

- A documented and implemented program
- Alignment to recognized standards
- Evidence of reasonable cybersecurity practices



**Compliance Deadline
for K-12: July 1, 2026**

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information:





Common Gaps We're Seeing

- Lack of a formal, documented cybersecurity program
- Limited alignment to NIST or CIS frameworks
- Incomplete incident response plans
- No defined incident reporting workflow
- Gaps in risk assessment and documentation



How MNJ Can Help

- HB 96 Readiness Assessment
- Cybersecurity Program Development
- Risk & Compliance Advisory (vCISO Services)
- Threat Detection & Response Solutions
- Incident Response Planning & Testing
- Security Awareness & Training



Next Steps

We recommend starting with a no-obligation HB 96 Readiness Assessment to understand where your district stands today and what is required to meet the July 2026 deadline.

About MNJ

MNJ is a leading Digital Transformation and IT Solutions Provider. We'll keep you ahead of the curve with our proven practice areas, focus on customer success, and extensive partner ecosystem.

Experience & Expertise

- 50+ Alliance Software Engineers
- 200+ Alliance Data Centers
- 21 years average experience for MNJ engineers

Consistent Execution

- 20+ years in business
- 12 years average customer tenure
- 10,000+ satisfied customers

Company Culture

We are a woman-owned, family-centered business and give our team and customers the same respect. We're friendly, passionate, and committed to excellence.



Let's ensure your district is not just compliant—but secure and defensible!
Connect with one of our specialists at solutions@mnjtech.com.