Security Scorecard

MAX in the Public Education Sector

Municipal agency secures student data and tax-payer investments

SecurityScorecard proactively and efficiently identities supply chain cybersecurity risks

The Challenge: Ad hoc risk management

The customer does business with almost 2,000 third-party vendors and spends nearly a billion dollars annually on these purchases. This massive ecosystem, combined with the sensitive data of students and staff, made them a constant target for cyberattacks. Before SecurityScorecard, the customer's third-party cyber risk management was ad hoc and time-consuming since they relied on multiple tools and fragmented workflows that didn't consistently deliver actionable insights.

Key Benefits

- Enhanced cyber awareness and education
- Modernized third-party cyber risk management
- Efficient use of taxpayer dollars

Solution: Actionable cyber risk insights

The customer turned to SecurityScorecard to modernize its third-party cyber risk program and move from a reactive to a proactive security posture. They chose to closely collaborate with SecurityScorecard on operationalizing the threat and risk insights available on the SecurityScorecard platform. SecurityScorecard's MAX service would be accountable for delivering actionable reports about the security threats and vendor security postures. SecurityScorecard's threat intelligence informs their Incident Likelihood Assessments to pinpoint a vendor's breach potential. When novel risks like zero-day vulnerabilities emerge, SecurityScorecard identifies impacted vendors as soon evidence of exploitation is detected.

> The government agency manages one the largest public school districts in the United States. It oversees over 1,000 schools and provides education to over 1 million students. It is a government agency that must adhere to a vast number of city, state, and federal laws and regulations. The organization's leadership is committed to making the public school system the safest educational system in the world.

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> **SecurityScorecard lets us know how changes in the threat landscape impact our vendor's ability to support our education mission."**
>
> Senior Cybersecurity Program Manager

Customer Info

Industry
Education

Headquarters
United States

Products
MAX Managed Services

The customer uses this information to perform due diligence on its vendors and to educate them on improvements they need to make to their own cybersecurity programs. They also monitor the critical assets of the system at-large. With SecurityScorecard, they now have a solution that provides the information needed to educate stakeholders on vendor cybersecurity risks. The solution allows them to rely on factual, verifiable information, reducing the need for multiple checks and manual processes. This enables the team to package information and present it to vendors and the customer's leadership, making stakeholders more aware of potential risks.

The Results: Efficient risk reduction

By partnering with SecurityScorecard, the customer has established a more effective and efficient third-party cyber risk management program. By reducing risk and saving money through efficient processes, the department can redirect resources toward its core mission: providing the best educational programs for its students.

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> **SecurityScorecard understands our organization and their service has adapted to our operational model.."**
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> Senior Cybersecurity Program Manager

Enhanced Cyber Awareness and Education

The customer receives a weekly report from SecurityScorecard that aids in their awareness campaign. This information helps them educate leadership and put vendors on a remediation path if needed. SecurityScorecard provides the data they need to explain why doing business with certain firms poses a risk. The solution serves as a "radar approach" for their vendors, allowing them to keep a constant watch.

Modernizing a Legacy System

The customer's cyber risk management program was previously ad hoc, using different solutions that were not always effective. Within the comprehensive SecurityScorecard platform, they now have access to threat intelligence that enables them to remediate vulnerabilities before they are exploited. AI-driven assessments prioritize risks and constant visibility is enabled through intuitive dashboards and user experiences. Vendors are given access to all findings through the platform, facilitating collaborative discussions with the school system.

Efficient Use of Taxpayer Dollars

With an annual spend of nearly a billion dollars on third-party vendors, the customer must be a good steward of taxpayer money. Using SecurityScorecard allows the department to minimize its cyber risk and ensure it is working with vendors who are trustworthy and secure. This efficiency means money can be saved and reinvested into educational programs and giving teachers the best solutions to educate students.

> "
> **I rely on SecurityScorecard to give me trustworthy and actionable information that improves the cyber resilience of my vendor ecosystem."**
>
> Senior Cybersecurity Program Manager

SecurityScorecard