

To all Newhall School District Families,

Newhall School District understands the importance of data security. After we learned of an incident involving a ransomware attack on our systems, we took immediate actions to protect the District's systems and data and enhance the security of our platforms. A professional third-party forensic firm has been engaged to investigate the ransomware incident and determine the scope of the incident. As our investigations continues, we will continue to enhance our security measures to help protect the student data stored on our systems.

I know this is a concerning issue for you. While we believe this is an isolated incident, we are committed to taking steps to assist with the prevention of this type of incident from occurring again. Although we have no reason to believe there has been any theft of sensitive data, as our investigation continues we will update our community about whether any student information may have been accessed. Additionally, there have been no reports of any issues with personal devices having accessed NSD student Google accounts and the forensic experts shared they have not seen issues with remote personal devices in prior ransomware incidents.

We also understand that you are concerned if the ransomware attack will disrupt the academic school year. We are working diligently to restore access to our files to minimize disruption to the academic year. At this time we do not anticipate the issue being resolved by tomorrow morning. NSD teachers created grade level specific lessons for students to complete on Wednesday (see attached). We ask that all students **NOT** use their District issued device to access their Google classroom at this time. We understand that there may be assignments visible in your child's Google classroom because they had previously been scheduled by the teacher, but until our forensic experts deem it safe, we ask that you not access these resources or use a District issued device. All grade level lessons can also be accessed on the District website [www.newhallschooldistrict.com](http://www.newhallschooldistrict.com).

We will provide updates in the coming days as more information becomes available. Our immediate priority is restoring access to District email and files. We thank you for your understanding during this time. Should you have any questions, please contact your school Principal.

Sincerely,

Jeff Pelzel  
Superintendent of Schools