On July 23, 2019, at 5 AM, the Information Security Team (IST) received a report from the Louisiana Department of Education (LDOE) that the Sabine Parish School District was the victim of a ransomware attack. IST responded to the incident by gathering additional details and discovered two additional school districts (City of Monroe in Ouachita and Morehouse Parish) affected by the same strand of ransomware.

After initial investigations, IST identified Sabine Parish to be the most significantly impacted of the three. A call was held with all State of Louisiana School Districts to assess any additional impact, increase awareness of the event, and provide guidance for improving posture in defending against these attacks.

The IST believes initial infection occurred by phishing emails containing malicious attachments. However, the IST will continue to analyze the original evidence that would indicate alternative points of entry.