

# National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education (NICE) Working Group

## K12 Subgroup

### Removing Roadblocks for Hands-on Cybersecurity Experiences in K12

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#### 1. Project Team Purpose

Students must be able to practice hands-on skills in order to prepare for today's cybersecurity career. Problems faced in the daily duties require the professional to look at security issues from both the attack/defend perspectives and critical business-centric functions and to adapt to ever-changing threats. Therefore, a hands-on experience is likely to produce the most effective results in training cybersecurity professionals. However, parents, teachers, and school administrators continue to express concerns about teaching hands-on cybersecurity skills to students, and many do not support cyber clubs and competitions. Developing a resource that highlights the advantages and addresses stakeholders' concerns will help remove the roadblocks that keep schools from supporting hands-on cybersecurity curriculum and competitions.

#### 2. Project Team Objectives

- Creation of a one-page handout that can help mitigate concerns from parents, teachers and school administrators about teaching cybersecurity
- The one pager will address hands-on activities like games and competitions.
- The one pager is not intended to address CTE specific curriculum.

#### 3. Project Team Deliverables

- Draft list of perceived roadblocks with related counterpoints (< 45 days)
- Draft content for one pager, send for review by NICE K12 Subgroup (<4 months)
- Refine draft content and submit to NICE Program Office < 6 months)