

September 18, 2019

OBLIGER 1 — Applied security

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Identify a couple of values in this scenario. Can you imagine values that are more important to a student than a teacher, and vice versa? Explain briefly, with examples. Also, name a couple of likely threat actors.
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As for a student, values that are important include learning, and enjoying the learning materials. For a teacher, values that are important are that a student passes the course without cheating, while getting good grades. This means that a student would rather take their time to get a good understanding of the curricula, and fail their test because of this, or because the student has a different meaning or understanding.

For a teacher, this means that their students get a poorer grade than they might deserve.

Threat actors that might interfere are that a student loses the opportunity to learn at their own pace. A student might also cheat, so a teacher will give a score that a student doesn't deserve. ☐

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CIT-services (confidentiality, integrity and accessibility) are essential features of information security. For each of them, consider the importance as well as things that may go wrong. That is, what may represent a threat or danger to each security objective.
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Give two general security controls that in this case can help to achieve a) Confidentiality b) Integrity
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Explain the role of accountability and authentication. Would you recommend prioritizing these security goals (security services/properties) in our case? Justify your answer.
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The school Skolen has an overall authorization policy which includes the following: Pupils shall have access to view/read personal information about themselves, and only themselves. Teachers shall have access to read/view personal information about all pupils they teach in at least one subject. Employees in the school administration shall have access to both view/read and change all personal information about both teachers and pupils. This policy applies regardless of how the information is requested, e.g. orally to the administration at the school, or directly in one of the computer systems the school uses to store and process this type of personal information. This means that the new digital learning environment must also enforce these policies. Briefly explain the overall mechanisms/functions that must be in place in the computer system for this to be implemented.”

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The school management also consider using a module in the system where pupils or their parents can report absence and the reason for absence, and where teachers can register a pupil's absence. Does the school have to pay special attention before they can use this module? Justify your answer.”

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Student Network: The school's wireless network (WiFi) has been set up without a "password" for encryption. Why is this a bad idea? Does turning on "encryption" in the wireless network affect whether it is safe to allow students and teachers to share a wireless network? Explain briefly.”

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Think like a "hacker": As a student, you will try to change a grade in the system. Give an example of how you would do this! (PS. No exact answer :-))”

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Submitted by Rolf Vidar Hoksås on September 18, 2019.