

# CLASSIFIED: Investigation Evidence

## Cyber Academy Middle School — Account Lockout Incident

### Your Mission

Several student accounts have been locked out due to failed login attempts. The IT department has gathered evidence. Your detective team must investigate.

#### Questions to answer:

- Is this a security incident or coincidence?
- What happened and why?
- What should the school do next?

### Document A: Login Attempt Logs

*Source: School authentication server*

USERNAME	DATE	TIME	ATTEMPTS	STATUS
jsmith2025	11/18/25	3:45 AM	12	LOCKED
mgarcia2025	11/18/25	3:47 AM	15	LOCKED
kchen2025	11/19/25	3:44 AM	8	LOCKED
rjones2025	11/19/25	3:46 AM	10	LOCKED
tpatel2025	11/20/25	2:15 PM	3	SUCCESS
akim2025	11/20/25	8:30 AM	1	SUCCESS
bwilson2025	11/21/25	3:45 AM	9	LOCKED

### Document B: Password Security Analysis

*Source: IT Department security audit*

USERNAME	COMPLEXITY	LAST CHANGED	PATTERN DETECTED
jsmith2025	WEAK	8/15/25	Birthday-based (Jake0823)
mgarcia2025	WEAK	8/15/25	Pet name + year (Buddy2025)
kchen2025	WEAK	8/15/25	School name + numbers (CyberAcad123)
rjones2025	MEDIUM	10/01/25	Random with substitutions (R@nd0m99)
bwilson2025	WEAK	8/15/25	Favorite team (Lakers24)
tpatel2025	STRONG	11/01/25	Passphrase (correct-horse-battery)
akim2025	STRONG	11/15/25	Random generated

### Document C: Social Media Activity (Public Posts)

*Source: Publicly visible student social media*

@JakeSmith\_2025 — August 23: “Best birthday ever! Thanks everyone!”

@Maria\_Garcia — September 5: “My dog Buddy is the cutest! ” [photo of golden retriever]

@KatieChen — October 10: “Cyber Academy spirit week! Go Eagles! #CyberAcad123”

@RJ\_Jones — November 1: “Changed my password to something actually random this time lol”

@BrandonW — October 28: “Lakers game tonight! LeBron is the GOAT #Lakers24ever”

@tanyapatel — November 10: “Finally using a password manager like my mom keeps telling me”

## Document D: Network Analysis

*Source: School firewall and network monitoring*

### FAILED LOGIN ATTEMPTS – SOURCE ANALYSIS

IP Address: 203.45.67.89  
 Geolocation: Outside school district (unknown location)  
 User Agent: Mozilla/5.0 (compatible; AutoBrute/2.1)  
 Connection Type: VPN/Proxy detected

#### TIME PATTERN ANALYSIS:

11/18 attempts: 3:45 AM – 3:47 AM (2 minute window)  
 11/19 attempts: 3:44 AM – 3:46 AM (2 minute window)  
 11/21 attempts: 3:45 AM (single timestamp)

#### EXCEPTION:

tpatel2025 login (SUCCESS): 2:15 PM, School IP, Normal browser  
 akim2025 login (SUCCESS): 8:30 AM, School IP, Normal browser

## Document E: IT Help Desk Tickets

*Source: School IT support system*

Date	Student	Issue	Resolution
11/18	Jake S.	“Can’t log in, says account locked”	Password reset issued
11/18	Maria G.	“Account locked out this morning”	Password reset issued
11/19	Katie C.	“Locked out again! Didn’t do anything”	Password reset, advised stronger password
11/19	Ryan J.	“Account locked, I just changed my password last month!”	Password reset issued
11/21	Brandon W.	“Same thing happened to me now”	<i>Pending investigation</i>

## Document F: Student Interview Notes

*Source: Brief conversations with affected students*

**Jake S.:** “I didn’t try to log in at 3 AM! I was sleeping!”

**Maria G.:** “This is so annoying. I have a really easy password so I don’t forget it.”

**Katie C.:** “I use the same password for everything, is that bad?”

**Ryan J.:** “I actually tried to make mine harder to guess. Why did this still happen to me?”

**Brandon W.:** “I post about the Lakers all the time. You think someone guessed my password from that?”



#### Investigation Tips

- Look for patterns across documents
- Consider what’s similar AND what’s different
- Think about what someone would need to know to do this
- Ask: What does the evidence show? What’s still uncertain?

*Security Detective Teams — NICE K12 2025*