

Technology Report

June/July, 2024

Systems Administration

- Windows 11 upgrades for staff PCs are ongoing.
- We upgraded VMware from version 7 to version 8. VMware is the platform we use for managing our virtual servers. We are also upgraded the firmware on our new SAN for the first time. Both upgrades occurred during normal business hours and without any downtime.
- Deep Freeze client is being upgraded on all patron PCs.
- The antivirus client will be upgraded on all staff and patron PCs in August.

Microsoft 365

SCLS staff purchased additional licenses for 365 which will give us more management options for email. We piloted our new configurations with MAR (Thanks, Callie and MAR staff!), converted our original pilot libraries over to the new configurations, and have asked library directors to sign up and designate a staff person to work with us on the rollout. More information can be found on the email page of the SCLS Technology pages: <https://www.scls.info/technology/email>

Infosec Training

SCLS staff sent an email with information about the program to directors whose libraries receive email through SCLS. They also imported a list of staff email accounts hosted by SCLS and sent an email to program participants. All participants should have received an email about the July training, and library directors will receive [monthly reports](#) about their staff's participation beginning August 1.

InfoSec training may count towards CE credit as well. Contact [Jean Anderson](#) for more information.

E-Rate

We are in the process of requesting the funds from the 2023/2024 E-rate cycle and will issue rebate checks to participating libraries as soon as possible. We have started purchasing network equipment eligible for the 2024/2025 E-rate cycle and network replacements in participating libraries will begin soon.

Amherst Joining SCLS Technology Services

Work is underway to prepare the Lettie W. Jensen Library of Amherst for transition to the SCLS network services, which will then allow them to participate in SCLS PC Support Services. This project is funded by an LSTA grant.

Data Services

New and updated data dashboards:

- [Most Circed Titles Not Owned by Library](#) – This dashboard lists titles not owned by a library and most frequently checked out by residents of the library's municipality. The list can be filtered by

Audience, Group, and Category, and the dashboard also has an optional control to include or exclude checkouts by residents at other SCLS libraries. In addition, selecting a title in the list creates a bar chart showing circulation counts broken down by month. It is also possible to customize the definition of “resident” to include neighboring municipalities based on patron PSTAT – contact tdrexler@scls.info for more information.

- [Adjacent County Payments, Non-resident Circulation, & Financial Service Data Summary](#) dashboards for Columbia, Green, Sauk, and Wood Counties – This series of dashboards visualizes selected payment and financial data from the DPI Annual Report. Each dashboard has multiple tabs:
 - “Adjacent County Payments/Circs by Year” is a series of bar charts comparing annual payments or circulation to and from the county from 2016 to 2023.
 - “Nonresident Circulation by Library” displays a treemap charting the relative volume of nonresident borrower circulation among the libraries in the county, both as a whole and with breakdowns for the different types of borrower categories (those in the home county, those in other system counties, out of state residents, etc.).
 - “Adjacent County Payments by Library/Year” visualizes reimbursement payments, the annual cost per circulation, and circulation to adjacent counties for each library within the county.
 - “Annual Income/Expenses by Library” charts individual library budgets from 2016 to 2023 broken down into income sources or expense categories.
- [Portage County Public Library | Monthly Branch Snapshots](#) – Using data provided by PCPL Branch Manager Laura Fuller, this dashboard summarizes multiple dimensions of branch activity in an infographic-type visualization. Laura enters the data into Google Sheets, from which, after some processing and data transformation, it can be imported into Tableau. This method allows the dashboard to incorporate non-ILS data such as program attendance, door counts, and meeting room use on an ongoing basis. This option is available for any interested SCLS library – contact tdrexler@scls.info for more information.

- Tim Drexler