

Technology Report

4/2021

Preparing for email changes

Microsoft is planning to retire some old email protocols. In February, we contacted libraries with devices (mainly copiers) that use some of these old protocols to send email so the libraries would be aware they may need to contact vendors to request updates.

BLV New Building Move

The Belleville Public Library recently finished construction on their new building. Emily and Craig installed the PCs, printers, access points, and network equipment. There were some setbacks as Frontier could not run fiber into the building due to the ground still being frozen. We set up temporary internet access through Verizon using a Peplink router. This was the first time we tried this type of connection and Will Allington was mostly responsible for its configuration.

Backup Collaboration

Dell field technicians spent a couple days at SCLS to configure and update the backup and archive systems. They ensured the devices were online before leaving. Dell also remoted into the devices for another couple days to do further configuration. The same work was attempted at Eau Claire, but Dell technicians found that one of the servers, the Data Domain, was dead on arrival. They will be replacing or fixing the device. After the device is fixed, we can continue working with LEAN Wisconsin.

Client-side Software Upgrades

Windows 10 Feature Update (20H1) – Most staff PCs have the 20H1 Feature Update. It is being pilot tested on public computers now.

Kaspersky Antivirus – The antivirus server that is hosted on-premise was updated to the latest version. Most staff computers have the new client version. The new client version is being pilot tested on public stations. The rollout will be slow on public stations because we want to ensure there are no issues with MyPC as there were last summer.

Grants

- 2019 E-rate—checks have gone out for any library that has received all of their rebates. We have not received all funding yet, so there will be another round.
- 2020 E-rate—ongoing (low funding year)
- 2021 E-rate Grant application period will be in early 2021 (low funding year); grant applications have been submitted
- CARES Act Grant—most funds have been spent; we are still working with a few libraries to finalize implementation.
- TEACH 2019 —all final requests for reimbursement have been made
- TEACH 2020—requests for reimbursement will be made soon