

Technology Report

2/2022

Content Filtering

Our current iBoss appliance solution is nearing its end-of-life and requires extensive custom scripting. We are in the process of evaluating the candidates. We have several candidates that we are working on. We are in the process of narrowing the field to 2 or 3 for further evaluation.

Backup Collaboration

Monarch has contracted with AT&T to acquire a separate WAN link to SCLS for the backup system. They are waiting for this line to be installed. Winding Rivers has expressed interest in being a second pilot for the system. We are working with them to design the connection from them to SCLS.

Grants Update

The 2020/2021 E-rate cycle funds have been retrieved, however they are being held in case there are startup costs for the new filtering solution. The 2021/2022 E-rate cycle is in progress. We are beginning the 2022/2023 E-rate cycle and have reached out to participating libraries regarding paperwork, etc.

SCLS applied for three competitive ARPA grants and one was awarded: "Hybrid Library Service Model: Unlocking resources." This grant will fund external library holds lockers for 8 SCLS member libraries as well as a SIP connection to integrate the lockers software with Biblioation. We are currently working with the libraries to confirm grant acceptance.

Cost Formula Work Group

The Cost Formula Work Group will be meeting in January and February. Any proposed changes to the Cost Formula will be presented at the March 17 All Directors meeting. A primary areas of will include support fees for RFID tagging stations.

Annual Report pre-fill

Staff are finalizing the Annual Report pre-fill and assisting with some processes related to Adjacent County Reimbursement.

Database subscriptions

Staff have configured authentication for new library subscriptions and removed access for library subscriptions that were not renewed. Library staff should double-check their database access and report any issues to the Help Desk.

Drupal 9 migration

SCLS staff have been writing documentation, developing migration processes, drafting a [tentative Go Live schedule](#), and working with our vendor to complete setup and testing of our development environment. We hope to pilot the process with Pardeeville's site toward the end of January.

During February, we are scheduled to migrate 4 additional pilot libraries and test out our migration processes. Rose will be hosting a [Drupal Migration webinar](#) on Feb 18th.

Virtual Server Platform

The new Dell PowerEdge R650 servers have arrived ahead of schedule. Tech staff has begun configuring the new servers to replace the current virtual server hosts which are six years old.

Windows 8 retirement

Microsoft is ending support for Windows 8 on January 10th, 2023. This means they will no longer be issuing security updates and we would like to have all the Windows 8 PCs replaced or upgraded by the end of 2022. We are very close to making this happen with only a small number of Windows 8 PCs remaining on the network at the end of November 2021.

Please check your Status reports to see how many Windows 8 PCs you have remaining at your library and make plans to speak with Craig about ordering PCs if you haven't already.

SCLS will be disconnecting any remaining Windows 8 PCs from the network at the end of January 2023.

Log4j/Log4Shell Vulnerability

A remote execution vulnerability for Apache's Log4j platform was discovered and reported to Apache in December. Log4j is used by countless other software platforms to log activity and events. Most IT service providers are affected by this vulnerability, including SCLS. SCLS has found 16 instances of Log4j software that needed attention. All 16 have been either patched, upgraded to unaffected versions, retired altogether, or had a temporary workaround implemented. If a temporary workaround was implemented, a permanent fix will be applied once released by the vendor.