

# Technology Report

August / September, 2023

## Drupal 9 Migration

We are thrilled to report that all of the SCLS-hosted library websites are now on Drupal 9!

**Feature updates:** On 9/26, Rose (with help from Kerri H and Tim D) added some new behind-the-scenes features to libraries' Drupal 9 websites:

- New editing toolbar (an updated version of what we already have, with some button switcheroos).
- New administration theme (the screens you see while logged-in for behind-the-scenes website editing and management).

Live Drupal 9 sites (August): [SKC](#), [Madison Living History](#), [SCLS Foundation](#)

Live Drupal 9 sites (September): ACL

Sauk City's website went live after migrating from Wordpress to SCLS' Drupal 9 hosting. Welcome SKC!

## Windows 11

We will begin deploying Windows 11 on new public PCs beginning in September. Existing staff PCs that get re-purposed as public PCs will also have Windows 11 installed, if eligible.

We have already been deploying Windows 11 on new staff PCs. We will begin upgrading existing Windows 10 staff PCs to Windows 11 in September. The PCs do not need to be sent to SCLS for the upgrade. The upgrade happens overnight. We will also let each library know when to expect the upgrade.

A Tech News blog article will be posted in September with more details.

## Data Services

### August

**Data dashboards:** Data visualizations and dashboards were a focal point in August.

- **Dane County borrower map** – I worked on finishing touches to this dashboard, including adding service areas for two Dane County libraries: Mount Horeb Public Library and Waunakee Public Library. The service area definitions allow the library staff to filter the demographic and cardholder data to the Census tracts in and around the library's municipality. In September, I will join the Dane County Librarians' meeting to demonstrate the dashboard and see if other libraries would like to include their service areas.
- **Middleton Public Library data by Alder District** – I had a request from Middleton Public Library Director Jocelyne Sansing for an update to a set of data visualizations previously created by a now-former staff member. The charts compare patron activity and cardholder registration among residents in the eight City of Middleton Alder districts. Jocelyne intends to use the revised and updated data visualizations in a slideshow presentation for the City Council. She

hopes the district data comparisons will help encourage Council members to increase awareness of library services in their Districts.

- **Reedsburg Public Library circulation tracker** – Reedsburg Public Library Director Sue Ann Kucher contacted me and Web Services Consultant Rose Ziech with a question about adding an updatable “ticker” to their website to track circulation numbers. Sue Ann would like to connect the ticker to celebrations planned for two upcoming library milestones: 25 years in the current library building as of October 2023 and 125 years of service to the community in 2024. According to data from historical sources she provided, the library is also approaching 10 million total items checked out since the first Reedsburg Public Library opened in 1898. I’ve created a set of initial design ideas for different gauges and tickers that staff can update daily or weekly to display the all-time circulation data. After settling with Sue Ann on a final design, Rose and I will work on embedding the dashboard on the Reedsburg Public Library website.
- [SCLS Data Services webpage](#) – As time allows, I’ve been adding embedded Tableau dashboards to the Data Services page on the SCLS website. My goal is to make the dashboards easier for libraries to access while displaying the wide range of completed dashboard projects to inspire new ideas. Because Tableau hosts the dashboards and associated preview images on their servers, embedding them requires only adding a URL link rather than uploading a separate copy of the source file. So far, I’ve posted groups of dashboards related to online resource usage, strategic planning and other projects, circulation and borrower demographics, and library collections data.

- Tim Drexler

## September

**Middleton Public Library data dashboard** – Middleton Public Library Director Jocelyne Sansing had previously requested a set of data visualizations showing breakdowns of resident cardholder activity by Alder District in the City of Middleton. After providing the charts in a format optimized for presentations, I decided to wrap up this project by creating a dashboard version with additional interactive elements. These include controls to select the year and tooltips with consistent formatting that appear when hovering over data marks.

I also had a chance to share the Middleton dashboard alongside the Library Cardholders in Dane County dashboard at the September meeting of Dane County Library Directors. Both dashboards received a very positive response, and they inspired several follow-up data requests, including one for a dashboard with similar geography-within-municipality comparisons.

**DPI Annual Report data pre-fill scripting** – In preparation for the 2023 DPI Annual Report, I’ve been working on updates to the custom Perl script SCLS uses to populate selected fields in the pre-fill spreadsheet. Among the changes I’ve incorporated so far are counts of “other materials” items owned and tallies of how many times the items in this category circulated, both of which will appear in the pre-fill for the first time this year. SCLS staff are also waiting for further information from the Department of Public Instruction regarding changes to the report questions; it’s possible such changes, though expected to be minor, will require additional script rewrites.

- Tim Drexler

## Scripting and Reports Team

PowerShell: After an unexpected change by Microsoft, SCLS staff spent some time learning about new PowerShell modules available from Microsoft and updating the scripts we use to create new email accounts.

**E-mail notifications and Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA):** The Scripting and Reports Team began planning the logistics of switching the automated script notification e-mail account to MFA. The Team would like to update all the affected scripts within a few hours of enabling MFA using a new app password associated with the account. Making the changes as soon as possible will allow the Team to continue receiving notifications on the regular schedule with the next instance of daily runs. The Team anticipates that there will be a several-hour window available on the day of the switchover since only one automated script typically runs during the day (most run early in the morning).

-Tim Drexler