

IT Report for IHLS Board, July 28, 2015

No action item. For information only.

SHARE Printing Server Update

It appears the fixes that were put into place just before the May board meeting on Polaris have fixed the vast majority of printing issues. The IT staff would like to thank the membership for their support and patience during this time. Since we rely on third-party applications to support Polaris, we are sometimes at their mercy to fix problems.

Website Changes to Infrastructure

The Web Developer has begun changing large areas of the website to update the infrastructure to allow future changes. Many of the changes are not immediately apparent, but will allow updates in the future to be more timely and pertinent. A SHARE portal for member libraries, that is part of the Dream Grant, is also making great progress. This portal will allow SHARE libraries to enable or disable staff members, workstations, and see Polaris specific settings for their library.

Update on Copier Savings

We continue to see real savings with the new copier agreements. In Edwardsville alone, we went from paying over \$1300 month in lease and usage, down to about \$500. The IT staff continuously look for cost saving opportunities like this.

Libraries Leaving the ICN

Many libraries have decided to leave the Illinois Century Network (ICN), the state of Illinois Internet backbone, based on their new pricing structure and the elimination of service credits for schools and libraries. The cost of a line to the ICN just became too expensive for them to continue. Luckily, many have options now through their local cable companies that offer very good speed and service. Not all cable companies provide the level of service that the libraries are accustomed to, and getting problems fixed has proved to be an issue for some, but for many, the savings is very much worth it.