OPLIN Core & Ethernet Upgrades

We have good news regarding future circuit bandwidth availability – the OPLIN core upgrade was officially completed on March 15, 2013. What does this mean for libraries? Basically, it means that we have the capacity for 10 Gbps Internet access, and we are currently only using a little over 2 Gbps. So, we will have plenty of room to grow in the future to handle increased traffic from libraries to the commodity Internet.

Specifically, the purpose of the core upgrade was to increase the Internet connection from four bonded 1 Gb links to a full 10 Gb link. As to what was actually done to perform the upgrade – the MX480 Juniper router received a major software upgrade and both a fan and power supply to support the new hardware as well as two interface cards relating to the 10 Gb connection.

This 10 Gb connection is the aggregation point for every library in the OPLIN network, and in order for the libraries to use their connections to the Internet, we have to have available bandwidth on our Internet connection at the core. Not only does this upgrade provide more bandwidth availability, but it increases network stability.

Also, some interesting news – Columbus Metropolitan Library and Cleveland Public Library are the first Ohio public libraries to have 1 Gbps Ethernet connections, both through Time Warner Cable (TWC). Columbus Metro received the 1 Gb upgrade in December 2012, and Cleveland Public will be upgraded in June 2013.

In addition, we are testing a new point-to-point wireless Internet service from Agile Networks in Harrison County as another possible alternative to the old copper T1 circuits. This wireless service is slated to be installed at the Puskarich Public Library sometime in late spring, and if it works as expected, we hope to install more connections for the remaining T1 circuits this fall.

OPLIN Biennial Budget Proposal

Governor John Kasich’s proposed budget for OPLIN funding for upcoming fiscal year 2014 (July 1, 2013 – June 30, 2014) is essentially unchanged from the previous two years. Now keep in mind, this budget is only the proposed budget, which could still be changed by the Ohio Senate or House of Representatives, but the news so far is that it will remain the same.

The OPLIN budget would remain flat, other than slight changes in the way the state calculates personnel costs, with us receiving approximately $3.7 million until June 2015. Also, the money would still come from the Public Library Fund (PLF) rather than the General Revenue Fund (GRF); however, public libraries are projected to receive more money in the proposed budget in FY 2014, which is good news.

The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) has decided that OPLIN will stay in the same office space for at least another two years. So, by the time the next budget biennium is reached in 2015, OPLIN finances will have remained the same for the last six years.

We will find out the official OPLIN biennial budget shortly before it goes into effect on July 1, 2013.
Ohio Web Library Updates

The Libraries Connect Ohio (LCO) committee that is working on the Invitation to Negotiate (ITN) for the next five years of Ohio Web Library databases met for the first time on August 27, 2012. The current five-year contracts for databases are about to end in June 2013.

The ITN was posted by the Libraries Connect Ohio fiscal agent, Wright State University, on December 20, and then proposals were accepted until February 15. In addition, LCO had a meeting on March 11 to discuss the selection of Ohio Web Library databases.

The State Library has projected that the maximum amount of LSTA funds available for the next year will be $1.6 million, after having additional funds available for the past two years. Those funds were used to purchase Ancestry and Mango Languages, and without the extra funds, selecting databases to renew will not be an easy decision.

The collection of databases that we are able to purchase will be smaller than what is currently available, and some new databases may be subscribed to while others are discontinued. The Ohio Web Library databases for next fiscal year should be announced after the State Library Board meeting on April 19, 2013.

Oxford Reference & The ART Collection Changes

Oxford Reference Online updates in Ohio Web Library:

Oxford Reference launched a completely redesigned site on September 19. This new site, unlike the old one, listed resources that subscribers could access as well as those that were “locked” and could not be accessed through our paid subscription. However, Oxford Reference has recently implemented a range of new functionality to enhance the user experience:

- New functionality which allows libraries to restrict search and browse results to full-text access content only. This full-text filter option is now available to allow patrons to view only content in our subscription, and the account preference has been changed to have the “Show full text results only” filter checked by default to avoid confusion.
- Annotation functionality: Select text to highlight and annotate with notes. This feature is activated by signing in to the “My Work” account where annotations can be stored and managed.
- Oxford Dictionaries Online widget: Double click a word to see the free definition.
- Leave Feedback: Leave feedback about usefulness of entries by using the box in each entry.

The ART Collection updates in Ohio Web Library:

- The Dallas Museum of Art has deaccessioned some works that can no longer be covered by the ART Collection resource, and this content was removed in early March 2013.

List of deaccessioned works: http://dma.org/View/Deaccessions/index.htm
OPLIN Happenings & Reminders

The OPLIN Board has asked the State Library Board to appoint Susan Brown to fill a vacancy on the board, beginning March 21. Dr. Brown is currently:

- Vice President of the Washington-Centerville Public Library Board of Trustees
- Instructor at Sinclair Community College in Dayton
- Previously served as an instructor at Miami University and as a Regional Coordinator for the Ohio Learning Network

We will soon be issuing a call for nominations for newly vacated positions on the OPLIN Board starting July 1, 2013.

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OPLIN Calendar

- **Wednesday, 4/3**
  OLC SW Chapter, Wilmington

- **Friday, 4/12**
  OLC NW Chapter, Toledo
  OPLIN Board Retreat

- **Thursday, 4/18**
  OLC N Chapter, Independence
  Thu, 4/18 – Fri, 4/19
  State Library Board Retreat

- **Thursday, 5/2**
  OLC C/SE Chapters, Columbus

- **Thursday, 5/16**
  State Library Board Meeting

- **Friday, 5/17**
  OLC Board Meeting

- **Monday, 5/27**
  Memorial Day,
  HOLIDAY – OPLIN CLOSED

- **Friday, 6/14**
  OPLIN Board Meeting

- **Thursday, 6/20**
  State Library Board Meeting

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Recently Launched Web Kits

- **Lima Public Library**
  http://www.limalibrary.com

- **Milton-Union Public Library**
  http://www.mupubliclibrary.org

http://www.oplin.org/portfolio
http://www.oplin.org/webkit

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Beginning in March, new Web Kits are being built on Drupal 7, and will be using responsive web design (RWD) so that a separate mobile version is not required.