OPLIN recently introduced a new user-friendly, web-based mail application called Zimbra. We set a release date of June 1 for the migration to Zimbra Open Source Edition (OSE), version 7.0, which replaced the older webmail interface, SquirrelMail. This change only affected those users who currently use webmail (http://mail.oplin.org) to login through their Web browsers, not those using separate email clients, such as Microsoft Outlook or Mozilla Thunderbird.

Besides the new look and additional features of Zimbra, nothing major changed for users. Everyone still has the same OPLIN email addresses as well as all of their old emails and address book contacts. Another bonus is that we increased webmail storage space from 100 MB to 1 GB. Basically, users gained many benefits without any drawbacks, aside from some small adjustments inherent to switching to any new application.

Before making this transition, we carefully researched and considered alternatives, but in the end, we believed that Zimbra offered the best choice in terms of reliability, stability, and flexibility. It provides a superior mail application for OPLIN webmail users, and an advanced administration and management console for OPLIN staff to increase behind-the-scenes efficiency.

For additional help information, please visit http://www.oplin.org/content/using-your-oplin-email-account.

OPLIN Network Changes. . .Coming Soon

As previously mentioned, OPLIN will be launching a major overhaul to its network this summer. These changes will involve Ethernet installations and upgrades of the Internet connections for libraries that previously only had T1 circuits. Specifically, Time Warner Cable will be installing fiber lines for 115 libraries, and AT&T will be installing lines for 31 libraries, with a total of 146 new Ethernet connections going live shortly after July 1. Currently, only one-third of the OPLIN network is Ethernet with the majority being T1 lines (1.54Mb), but after these changes, 90% of our network will be Ethernet with only 23 T1s left.

This is an ongoing process because we still plan to work on getting more libraries converted to Ethernet when possible in the future. In addition, the existing T1 contracts will be changing over to month-to-month in July instead of the previous long-term SOMACS contracts.

Benefits of OPLIN Zimbra Mail

- New, updated, sleek user-friendly interface
- Increased email storage space up to 1 GB
- Global address book and personal contacts
- Shared calendar and document management
- Social media integration (Twitter, Facebook)
- Advanced user preferences – customization
- Conversation thread email views (like Gmail)
- Syncs with email clients and calendars (iCal)
The State Library of Ohio Board recently approved a $2,758,000 federal Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) LSTA grant to help Libraries Connect Ohio purchase the Ohio Web Library core set of electronic databases for the approaching year. Libraries Connect Ohio (LCO), comprised of the State Library, OhioLINK, OPLIN, and INFOhio, was formed in 2003 by a collaboration of academic, public, and school library networks to purchase online resources under a single license for all residents of the state.

The core collection of electronic databases is available to all Ohioans through the Ohio Web Library and includes information resources, such as full-text magazines and journals, reference materials, newspapers, art, test prep and tutorials, online courses, and career/job search tools. **Starting July 1, 2011**, the collection will include three new resources – Mango Languages and ProQuest Ancestry Library Edition (both one-year pilot projects) as well as World Book Online Early World of Learning.

**Mango Languages** is an online foreign language learning system, which covers 34 different languages and 15 English-as-a-Second Language (ESL) packages to help foreign language speakers learn English.

**ProQuest Ancestry Library Edition** delivers billions of records in census data, vital records, directories, and photos, contained in over 7,000 databases. Ancestry Library Edition will be restricted to on-site library access.

**World Book Online: Early World of Learning** offers an interactive learning environment for children in preschool and early elementary grades, which includes resources to help them grasp critical early childhood themes while developing reading and oral language skills.

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**On July 1, 2011, the statewide research databases will include the following resources:**

- [American and English Full Text Literature](http://ohioweblibrary.org/literature)
- [ART Collection Art & Museum Images](http://ohioweblibrary.org/art)
- [H.W. Wilson Biography Reference Bank](http://ohioweblibrary.org/bios)
- [EBSCOhost Databases](http://ohioweblibrary.org/ebSCO)
- [EBSCO Business Source](http://ohioweblibrary.org/business)
- [EBSCO Kids Search](http://ohioweblibrary.org/kids)
- [EBSCO Newspaper Source](http://ohioweblibrary.org/newspaper)
- [EBSCO Student Research Center](http://ohioweblibrary.org/student)
- [Facts on File Science Online](http://ohioweblibrary.org/facts)
- [Job & Career Accelerator (LearningExpress)](http://ohioweblibrary.org/job)
- [LearningExpress Library](http://ohioweblibrary.org/tests)
- [Mango Languages](http://ohioweblibrary.org/mango)
- [NewsBank (Ohio’s Newspapers)](http://ohioweblibrary.org/newsbank)
- [Oxford Reference Online Premium](http://ohioweblibrary.org/oxford)
- [ProQuest Ancestry Library Edition](http://ohioweblibrary.org/ancestry)
- [Sanborn Fire Insurance Maps](http://ohioweblibrary.org/sanborn)
- [World Book Online](http://ohioweblibrary.org/worldbook)
- [World Book Kids](http://ohioweblibrary.org/worldbook-kids)
- [World Book Early World of Learning](http://ohioweblibrary.org/worldbook-early)
Juniper Router Upgrades

In addition to the Ethernet upgrades this summer, OPLIN will be replacing the current Cisco routers at the libraries. The batch of Cisco routers still in operation reached their industry end of life date on June 30, 2008, and maintenance contracts are no longer available. These routing devices are used to connect the public library data circuits to the OPLIN core at the State of Ohio Computer Center (SOCC), so it is important that we are finally able to replace them with new models for increased functionality.

We plan to upgrade to Juniper J2320 or J6350 routers, and we have already replaced the Cisco routers for 71 libraries. The State Library recently awarded the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) LSTA funds in the amount of approximately $244,000 that was necessary for us to complete the Juniper router upgrades for an additional 146 libraries.

The Ohio Office of Information Technology (OIT) manages the OPLIN routers for all the library locations. During the months of May and June, OIT staff members have been contacting individual libraries to remotely access the current routers to make configuration changes in preparation for the new router installations. In addition to these being newer routers, we are switching to the Juniper J-Series because we believe that they have a better feature set for the same price point as the Cisco routers.

OPLIN Happenings & Reminders

Last year, the Public Library Data Center replaced the annual OPLIN Connectivity Survey for gathering library data. With all the recent staff and technology changes, we need all the libraries that have not done so lately to update their information by September 1 for publication at:

http://www.oplin.org/content/ohio-public-library-connectivity-data

The Data Center login username is the director’s email address, but this information might not be updated with the recent director changes. If you do not have the login credentials, please contact OPLIN Support so that we can change your username and send you a new password.

Public Library Data Center – http://www.oplin.org/datacenter/

For any issues or questions, please contact OPLIN Support directly by sending an e-mail to support@oplin.org, or visit http://support.oplin.org for additional ways to reach us.