

## Information Technology

The Information Technology Division designs and operates the computer systems used by the OPI to conduct daily operations in order to complete the mission of the agency. The division funds the licenses and maintenance contracts for hardware and software maintained by the OPI.

Within the Information Technology Division,

### Network Services:

- Installs, secures and operates the OPI's network and desktop computing environment including the support of cell phones and more than 200 desktop and laptop computers. Hosts the OPI website, the Board of Public Education's website, the Montana NewsLink website and the Legislature's website including video streaming of the House and Senate Chambers and committee hearings.
- Hosts OPI's applications on a virtual server for cost efficiency.

### Systems Development:

- Issued RFPs for the Statewide Longitudinal Data System project; created a central repository that documents the data the OPI maintains and how it is collected and reported; created an online application for school continuous improvement plans; performed a major rewrite of the systems used by the School Nutrition Program; and migrated a number of applications from obsolete software to a newer and easier maintained environment.
- Creates and supports more than 60 OPI- written computer applications used by the agency.
- Is establishing a data warehouse and new reporting tools; implementing an improved system to control access to OPI's computer applications and provide single sign-on for users of OPI systems; and migrating all OPI systems to a web-based presentation layer to provide easier access to systems and allow cost effective maintenance of the systems.

### Internet Services:

- Completed a major rewrite and update of the OPI website and the installation of a new bulk email server.
- Maintains the OPI website, which has more than 3 million visits a year. Maintains the electronic communication between the OPI, Montana's 420 school districts, 56 county superintendents, tribal educators and the Board of Public Education. Operates the "Jobs for Teachers" website which notifies teachers and school administrators of job openings and provides for online teacher applications. Provides desktop publishing services for the cost effective production of all OPI publications.

### Resource Center:

- Operates the OPI Resource Center which provides research, answers reference and resource questions, and maintains the OPI research library.

### School Computer Equipment Program:

- Operates the OPI School Computer Program which distributes more than 2,000 surplus state government computers and peripherals a year to 420 school districts.