GRAND VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY DIVISION

DECEMBER 2024 NEWSLETTER

WINDOWS 11 UPGRADES BEGIN JANUARY 2025

In January 2025, GVSU Information Technology (IT) will begin migrating university-managed computers to Microsoft Windows 11, with the transition scheduled to conclude by August 2025. This upgrade is essential to maintain secure and reliable systems as Microsoft ends support for Windows 10 on October 14, 2025.

The migration will occur in phases, with faculty and staff able to choose a convenient time for their upgrade or follow their assigned schedule. To help you prepare, the **Windows 11 Roadmap for GVSU** outlines what to expect, the phased timeline, and key features of the new system.

What's Next?

- Watch for additional information including specific timelines, training opportunities and other resources in future newsletters and targeted communications.
- Review The Importance of Proper Backup and Data Storage for GVSU Computer Users and start implementing its guidelines.
- If possible, delay new equipment purchases until January to ensure compatibility with Windows 11 and minimize the need for adjustments.

With any immediate questions, you are invited to contact IT through the Service Portal or at it@gvsu.edu.

[Review the Windows 11 Roadmap for GVSU]

Blackboard Maintenance Scheduled December 18

Blackboard will be unavailable on December 18, 2024, from 12:00 a.m. to 6:00 a.m. due to scheduled maintenance for a database upgrade.

If you have any questions or concerns, please reach out to IT Services by submitting a ticket through the Service Portal, emailing it@gvsu.edu or calling 616-331-2101.

Cyber Security Corner:

Protecting PII: Avoid Sending Sensitive Information by Email

At Grand Valley State University, protecting Personally Identifiable Information (PII), especially Social Security Numbers (SSNs), is essential for maintaining trust and security. Email, though convenient, is a common weak point for safeguarding this sensitive data. Learn why emailing PII poses risks and how to prevent breaches.

[Understand why you shouldn't email sensitive information]

Meet Josh Libby, Systems Engineer, Enterprise Architecture Team

Josh Libby is a Systems Engineer in the Enterprise Architecture Department within GVSU's Information Technology Division. He specializes in managing the Office 365 suite, maintaining Hyper-V virtual machines, and contributing to the rollout of Windows 11.

Since joining GVSU in April 2023, Josh has found fulfillment in resolving IT issues for the campus community and collaborating with his team to promote a unified OneIT mindset. He holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Systems with a minor in Business and is certified in Ekahau wireless site survey and design.

Outside of work, Josh trains Labradors for bird hunting, enjoys fishing, watching football and college basketball (#RollTide), and cooking on his pellet smoker. His diverse background includes serving as a volunteer Firefighter/EMT, with one emergency response featured in Netflix's *The Confession Tapes* (Season 1, Episode 4).

Josh also proudly served six years with the Michigan Army National Guard, including a 12-month deployment (2007-2009) in Operation Iraqi Freedom. During this time, he worked as a mechanic specializing in Armored Security Vehicles (ASVs) and served as a .50 caliber gunner on a Humvee, providing convoy security between Kuwait and Baghdad International Airport.

Thank you, Josh, for all you do at GVSU!

SEASON'S GREETINGS FROM GVSU IT
Wishing you a holiday season filled with joy and a New Year powered by innovation!

Need IT Assistance?

Phone: (616) 331-2101   **Email:** it@gvsu.edu   **Service Portal:** services.gvsu.edu

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