



Information Technology



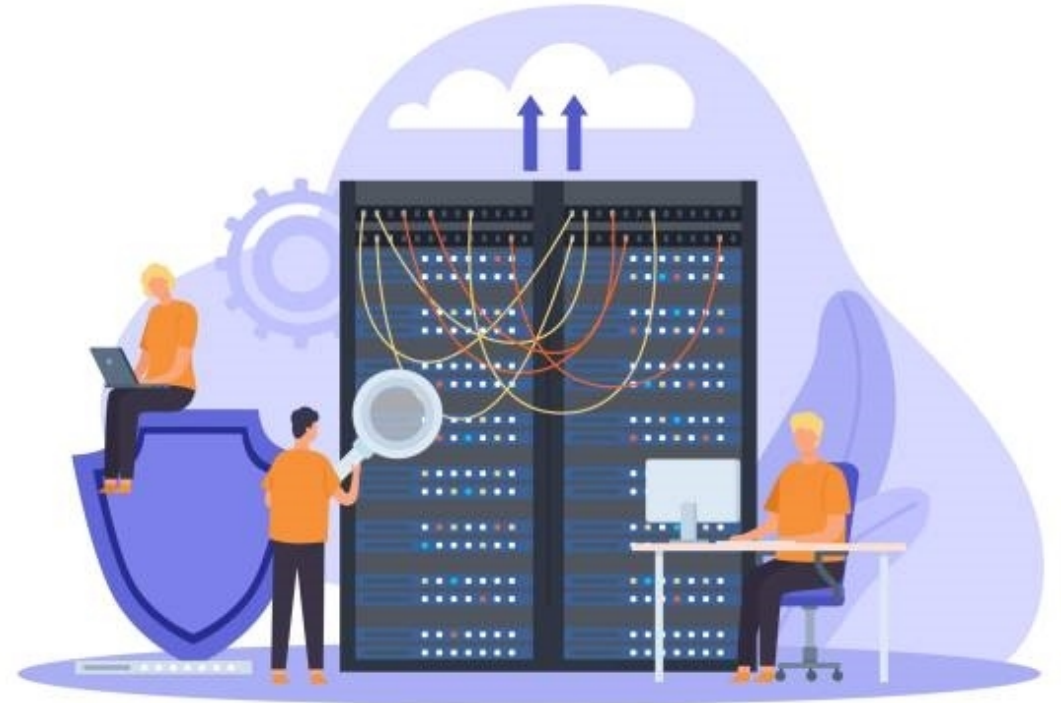
Strategic Plan Goal: Standardize High- Functioning, Efficient, Student-Focused Operations

Key Achievements:

Main Data Center Server and School Network Equipment Upgrades:

All new servers have been received and configured and are now operational. This \$100,000+ project, made possible through critical support from the North Slope Borough CIPM. The hardware upgrades enable the modernization and enhancements in business operations, Cybersecurity, and Student Health and Safety, such as:

1. **District Accounting Software:** Now ready for its long-overdue upgrade, enhancing operational efficiency and security.
2. **Door Access Control and Intercom/PA Systems:** Transitioning to modern, reliable solutions that will be installed shortly.



3. The deployment of new servers and the recent award of advanced cybersecurity software significantly bolster the district's defense against cyber threats.

4. In collaboration with the Maintenance and Operations Department, vape detectors have been installed district-wide in an effort to address a growing concern about student health and behavior.

Impact on Operations and Education:

- These state-of-the-art servers are built to remain operational for 7–10 years, ensuring longevity and sustained efficiency.
- Achieving this transformative advancement without significant cost to the district budget demonstrates our commitment to fiscal responsibility.

Funding Sources:

The IT Department leveraged a combination of funding sources, including:

- **E-rate Category 1 and 2**

North Slope Borough CIPM Funding

State and Local Cybersecurity Grant Programs



CHALLENGES

Despite these achievements, the IT Department continues to face several challenges that impact the pace and scope of our work:

1. Small IT Team:

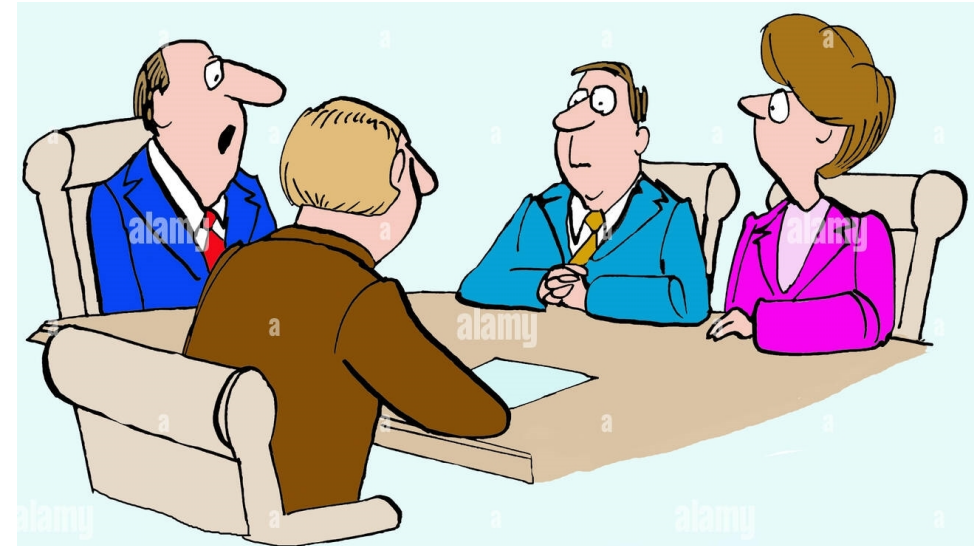
- With a limited number of team members supporting the entire district, we often face constraints in juggling multiple critical projects simultaneously.
- The small size of the team requires prioritizing tasks carefully, which can delay lower-priority projects.

2. Travel and Scheduling:

- Serving a district as vast and remote as the North Slope Borough presents unique logistical challenges.
- Traveling to different village schools for on-site work is often weather-dependent and time-consuming, leading to unavoidable delays in completing upgrades and installations.

3. Resource Management:

- While funding support has been strong, managing the deployment of new systems and ensuring they integrate seamlessly with existing infrastructure requires meticulous planning and coordination.



**“What we really need in IT
is someone who has super powers.”**

alamy

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PRIORITIES OF FOCUS

Key Priorities for the Remainder of the School Year

1. Developing Department SOPs

- Create and implement Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) for internal IT workflows and external interactions with other departments.
- Streamline communication and processes for addressing technology needs.
- Ensure consistency in service delivery across the district.
- Work closely with other departments to identify pain points and optimize processes for efficiency and clarity.

2. Assessing Educational Technology Usage

- Evaluate the current state of educational technology (EdTech) in classrooms and its alignment with instructional goals.
- Identify gaps or areas where technology can better support student learning.
- Promote purposeful and strategic use of technology to enhance educational outcomes.
- Partner with the Instructional Team to gather feedback from teachers and staff.
- Align technology initiatives with curriculum and instruction priorities.

