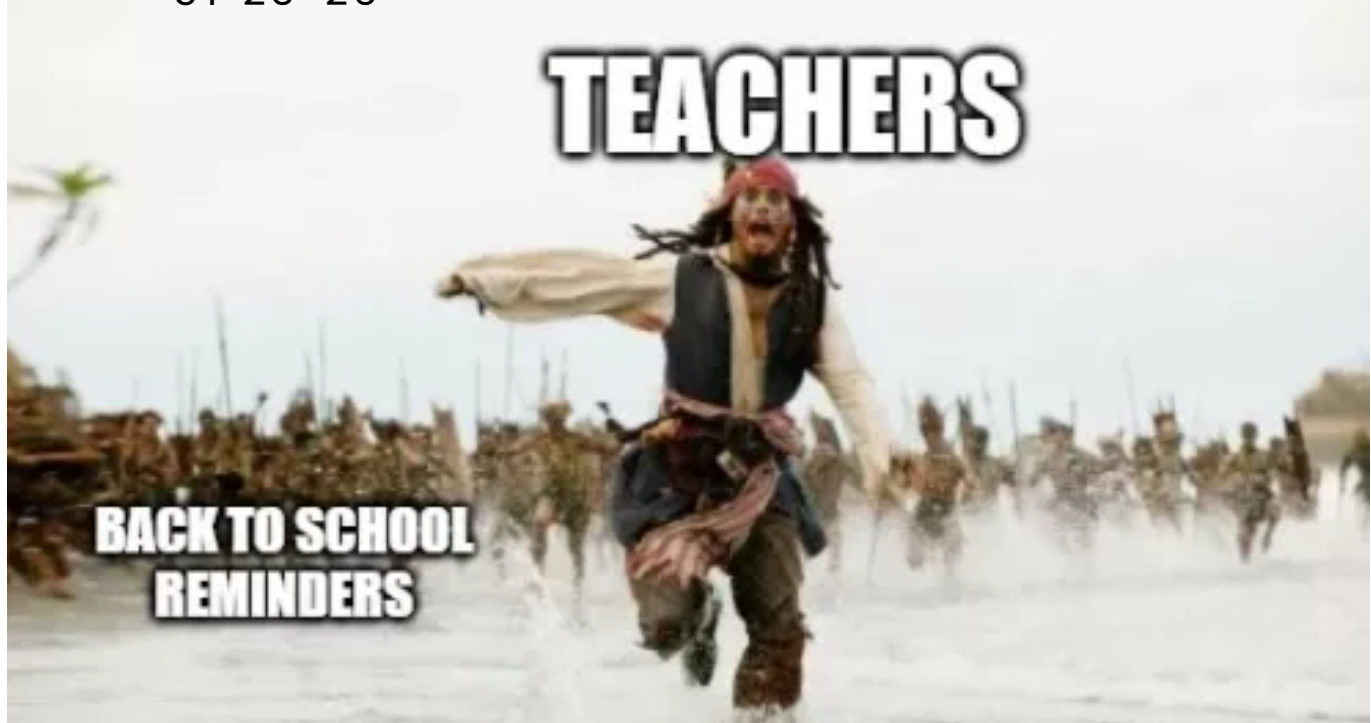




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Diman Regional *Information Technology* is now Technology Services



For this upcoming school year the DRVTHS Information Technology is rebranding to Technology Services.

Why the change?? Simple: The term "IT" is dated within the technology industry. In addition, the nomenclature "Technology Services" gives a better idea of what our department provides to the school: Information, Technology, Data, Network and all related services.

The rebrand is also meant to demonstrate our commitment to providing our educators and staff with all they need when it comes to technology!



Windows Server 2025

A new beginning....

While desktops and workstations run in Windows (currently Windows 11 specifically), the Windows Operating System for Servers has a different naming convention, named directly after the year of release in order to easily date when software needs to be updated. **Prior to this year Diman's underlying server environment was running Windows Server 2012**, an OS over 10 years old!

After some WiFi issues and a few trust relationships uncovered how dated our servers really were while attempting to upgrade end user systems to Windows 11, the DRVTHS server infrastructure needed to be completely rebuilt.

Thanks to the dedication of the Technology Services team **we were able to configure this new environment, built upon Windows Server 2025, and connect over 500 devices to it!** These new servers mean enhanced security and increased compatability as we begin to transition to our new space.

Aspen Migration Completed!

Servers are only as good as the data they house, right?

Well Tech Services did not stop at rebuilding our server infrastructure and connecting all machines in production to it: Our District's Data Specialist was also able to roll our Aspen Database to the new school year over a month earlier than what has been done previously!

This meant more time for our staff to prepare for the incoming classes.



ParentSquare

New Start Page: LaunchPad

Our previous Start Page has been replaced this year by the LaunchPad for all students, faculty and staff.

LaunchPad provides a centralized location for available district resources. Further we are leveraging Google's enhanced security to protect LaunchPad and the apps within.



DRVTHS Has Gone ParentSquare!

Our new communication platform is ParentSquare. PS should be the main method of communication and the only district approved method of communication with families.

ParentSquare will be set up for you, with your school and class rosters preloaded to minimize setup time and help you get started quickly. ParentSquare is also in use by other neighboring districts, so many students and families will already be familiar with it.

Artificial Intelligence (AI) in K12 Schools



After much requesting, DESE has provided guidance for educators in terms of Artificial Intelligence and the use of AI in the classroom.

DESE has published an AI roadmap, outlining their plan and the phases they will move through as they review Artificial Intelligence and its usage in regards to education.

In addition to that roadmap, DESE has also published a .PDF that provides Guidance for Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Education available [here](#)

Finally, a self paced AI Literacy course for Educators has also been provided [here](#)

This is the first sort of guidance from the state to educators regarding Artificial Intelligence. While reviewing their guidelines I am happy to find that many points that state is making are how AI has already been presented to Diman Educators! Mainly, be aware and wary of what information is put into these systems, as no input is ever deleted.

The road map and latest updates on DESE's AI initiatives can be seen at <https://www.doe.mass.edu/edtech/ai/default.html>

Windows 11

The Internet Age brought us a world that is ALWAYS connected. With that constant connection brings new threats and scams as a digital arms race takes place between software developers and hackers.

This fact becomes highlighted every few years when a popular Windows version goes "End of Life (EoL)". EoL is a term being seen more and more commonly and all it really means is that the developer is done with it, the product will not be further developed, patched or supported. Running unsupported, or EoL software, becomes a much larger risk than it has in the past due to all of our information living online.

Originally releasing in July 2015, Windows 10 will be EoL come October 2025. To keep Diman protected and secure all systems were updated to Windows 11 over the summer. Any systems incapable of receiving this update have been removed from production or disconnected from the network.

