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## Computer virus strikes Mounds View Schools

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### *Tech team working around the clock*

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SHOREVIEW — At press time, the Mounds View School system was in its second week of trying to battle a computer virus that disabled the district's servers and computers.

Superintendent Dan Hoverman said on the district's Web site Feb. 17 that a 12-person technology team was "working around the clock to rebuild 40 servers and to get all 3,500 district computers reimaged and back up and running." The goal was to have most staff computer running by Feb. 20 and student-use computers functioning by Feb. 27, he said.

He said the group identified the computer virus as [w32.virut.cf](http://w32.virut.cf), variations of which have disabled other computer systems around the country. "Microsoft has posted a reward for information relating to this issue," he said. "While the district has the latest antivirus software, the virus went undetected in the earliest stages because our antivirus provider (like most providers) did not have the ability to block it".

In the meantime, Hoverman said, Mounds View staffers have used "independent and secure servers" outside of the schools to send emails and post messages on [www.moundsviewschools.org](http://www.moundsviewschools.org).

"The Mounds View Messaging system is also delivering voice mail messages to families and staff members when important up-dates are available," he said. Staff members can best be reached by phone, with numbers posted on [www.moundsviewschools.org/directories.asp](http://www.moundsviewschools.org/directories.asp)".

Despite the technology disturbance, he said, school is still operating as usual "thanks to very flexible and patient teachers and staff members who are using non-electronic forms of record-keeping for grading, lunch balances, attendance and other records".

Electronic files will be updated when computers are back online.

"This isn't easy for anyone," Hoverman said. "Residents are asked to please bear with the problem as the tech team visits each site to reimage computers and secure the district's server".

— *Mounds View School District Website*

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