

This week's Tech Tip talks about campus computer **Antivirus scans** that happen on **Monday's starting at noon**. The idea for this week's Tech Tip was suggested by Steve Hagedorn who works with LSRI on campus. Thank you Steve for the suggestion, other can suggest Tech Tips by going to the link at the bottom of the Tech Tip webpage.

As most of you have noticed, a Symantec Antivirus Scan takes place every Monday at noon on all campus computers. This Anti-virus scan can slow down your computer's performance because it uses a lot of memory and seek time scanning your files. Particularly if you have a lot of large files on your computer. However, the scan is necessary to keep the campus computing environment safe for campus data.

The date and time for this scan can't be changed due to a Governor's mandate for power savings which requires computers to be turned off after hours. However, the scan can be delayed to a more convenient time if necessary by using the following technique.

- 1) Click the pause button on the Antivirus window. It's in the upper left and looks like two vertical bars.
- 2) A dialog box appears where you can pause the scan for one hour or three hours. Depending on which you select the scan will stop and not come back until one or three hours later. *Note that it may take a few seconds for the scan to completely stop.*
- 3) You can repeat this process up to three times. For instance, if you pause for three hours and decided you need to pause the scan again after it restarts, simply repeat steps 1 and 2.

After pausing, the scan will pick up from where it left off. It does not start all over when it restarts.

Also, you do not have to be logged in for the scan to run. The only requirement is that your computer be powered on.

The three pause limit ensures that all campus computers are scanned for viruses and spyware on a weekly basis. This is an important procedure for your computer to perform. It helps to protect your computer and the campus network against viruses and security breaches.

Students that own their own computers and bring them to campus are also required to have Antivirus software installed. Be sure to scan your computer frequently to protect your computer and data from virus and spyware attacks.