

Summary of the September Webcast for KY K-12 Education Technology Leaders from Dayton Independent Schools

In case you missed it or want a refresher, the following is what we talked about during the September 17, 2019 webcast from Dayton Independent Schools.

Access the digital video and audio copy for this webcast through our webpage at: <https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/featured/2019/09/edtech-september-2019/>

Public viewing of the archived webcasts and written summaries are also available on the KDE Media Portal at: <http://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/>. Numbers in **RED** indicate the timestamp for that portion of the discussion so it can be easily located on the full digital recording.

In attendance from KDE's Office of Education Technology were David Couch, Mike Leadingham, and Phil Coleman. DeDe Conner, Chuck Austin and Marty Park joined in via Skype from Frankfort and Charlotte Chowning, KETS field staff member, was also present. There were three GoSoapBox questions posed during today's webcast along with a discussion question.

(1:04) Dayton Independent Schools Background - Jay Brewer, Superintendent, greatly appreciates the technology support received from the Office of Education Technology (OET). Dayton Independent schools are located right along the Ohio River and form the Northern border with several other counties. There are 1000 students P-12 with two schools on one beautiful campus that originated in 1871. It was noted that John Wooden began his basketball coaching career at Dayton High School in the old building.

In September of 1989 the historic Rose decision, led by former Dayton Ind. Supt. Jack Moreland, began the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA) legislation and the formation of the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS). It took a lot of courage to lead that effort and Jack is still active in Dayton.

Casey Woods, Dayton's Network Administrator, discussed their technology programs. Dayton has an STLP-run helpdesk with 15 to 20 students—they provide helpdesk support and also work on Macintosh support issues. Chromebooks were implemented in the middle school this year. He continues to learn from the STLP Engineer Program that he has led for us for several years. Casey began working with STLP in 1998 as a senior at Dayton High School and he now mentors a number of students. Peers from Bellevue, Ft. Thomas, Boone and Middleton were also present for today's webcast along with Dayton's technician and Digital Learning Coach.

(8:39) Kentucky Society for Technology in Education (KySTE) Update - Mary Ann Rankin provided an update on the upcoming Fall KySTE event. The planning is underway and it will once again be a virtual event to be held October 29th from 9-4:10 EST. There is no registration requirement and it's fine to pop in/out according to your interests. Sessions will also be recorded and posted later. There are several strands that will interest different positions within your schools and feel free to distribute the link to your staff—<http://bit.ly/kystefallevent> . A few other items:

- Outreach grants are now open until December 3rd
- Awards and Scholarships will open next week for nominations and
- KySTE Spring 2020 is March 11-13, 2020; call for presenters just opened

(10:51) KY School Facility Construction Committee (SFCC) Update – The SFCC approved the annual KY K-12 edtech needs for SY 2019-2020 during their September 4th meeting. The Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) approved this during their August meeting. We may now proceed with the annual KETS Offers after gaining these required approvals; the 1st KETS Offers of \$9/ADA can be offered to all 172 KY K-12 school districts within the next few weeks. Some districts are still working to submit the required documentation for this first offer.

(12:04) Historical Moments/Reminder - Along with the historic *Rose vs. Council for Better Education* legislation that became known as the Kentucky Education Reform Act (KERA), we had a few other historic milestones:

1. In September of 1995 a communication went out to all school districts announcing that all KY K-12 school districts were connected to the Internet. We were the first state in the nation to do that.
2. In September of 2015 Kentucky became the first state for all schools to be connected to the Internet by fiber and meet the federal Internet connectivity speed goals of 100 kb per student.

Unfortunately, many leaders, individuals and groups in KY are still unaware of these two amazing KY K-12 milestones. For example, at the recent Shaping our Appalachian Region (SOAR) event for eastern KY counties, it was very evident that many in attendance of that SOAR event still do not know these two things. A written communication was shared with leaders and speakers of that SOAR event afterward to make them better aware of these two historic KY K-12 Internet milestones as well as the current quality/reliability of Internet connectivity in KY K-12. We all have maximized and been great stewards of the taxpayer funds for KY K-12 edtech since 1992 and thus are very worthy of continuing to invest in KY K-12 edtech in the future. Please do your part and help us educate your county's citizens, organizations and leaders on the Internet connectivity that you already have at your schools.

(15:33) Additional Budget Request (ABR) for KY K-12 Edtech Update – We have been working on an ABR to bring the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) funds from \$16.4M per year to \$30M per year for the five items we covered in depth during last month's webcast. Please continue doing your part to educate your Superintendent, your Chief Financial Officer (CFO), and your community and legislative leaders. This is the time to approach your legislators and help us be successful in this endeavor.

(18:19) Office of Education Accountability (OEA) Study Update – The OEA has completed a study on Career and Technical Education (CTE) that will be presented on September 17th to a legislative committee. All funding, including KETS funding, for KY K-12 vocational students is part of the study. OET field staff will be getting some feedback from district CIOs/edtech leaders on the edtech services the district is providing to locally owned vocational schools and state provided vocational schools (i.e., ATCs).

Dayton feeds into the Campbell County ATC along with five other school districts. From the KETS funding perspective, ATCs have always been included in the funding formula for the KETS Offers of Assistance. We will see if that continues or if we will need to look at an alternate methodology for that offer calculation moving forward. Dayton said they have about 25 students (juniors and seniors) who attend half-day programs at the vocational level.

(22:59) Louisville Courier Journal/[ProPublica Local Reporting Network](#) Update – As an FYI, an article was released nationally on September 4th that focused on Internet services for KY K-12 schools, KY K-12 E-rate funding and the KIH4 bid attempt in 2015. <https://www.propublica.org/article/how-kentucky-gambled-for-hundreds-of-millions-of-dollars-from-a-broadband-program-it-didnt-qualify-for> . Please review the article along with the associated links and stay aware of the situation. If you have any questions, please let us know. We can't put the E-rate rebate funding program for Kentucky in jeopardy; if not for E-rate, the KETS Offer would only be in the \$5/ADA range for the entire year.

(25:05) [Education SuperHighway Report](#) Update - The latest national Education SuperHighway (ESH) Report will go public soon. We do have significant concerns on the ESH goals versus the true bandwidth. This organization reports on connectivity across the nation and they base much of their recommendations from the E-rate program information. There are a few areas of concern:

1. Bandwidth – They speak to what we pay for versus the capacity that we have; they have a target of 1Mbps/student and we don't have that because we pay for usage and need versus capacity. We find this very misleading and have asked that they balance this information. We provide a very good/very clean experience and ramp up bandwidth based on need to be a good steward of taxpayer funds.
2. Affordability – We always work on costs and what is included in our cost is not well-represented; it is something that we always attempt to defend. We count on the district to work on clean usage of data from their network. Wireless services is one area where we want to work on improving the user experience.

(32:38) KY K-12 Assessment and Accountability System Update – We have received a few briefings within KDE on the upcoming five-star rating system. You will be hearing more about this moving forward!

(33:40) KY K-12 School Report Card Regulation Update - The first reading for the revisions to this regulation will go before the Kentucky Board of Education in October. If you'd like to review the regulation in its entirety, you may view it at file:///C:/Users/lhmoore/Downloads/VII_B_1_AmendmentsTo703KAR514082819_0.pdf . Two education technology related data elements are recommended to remain and we are recommending one for removal:

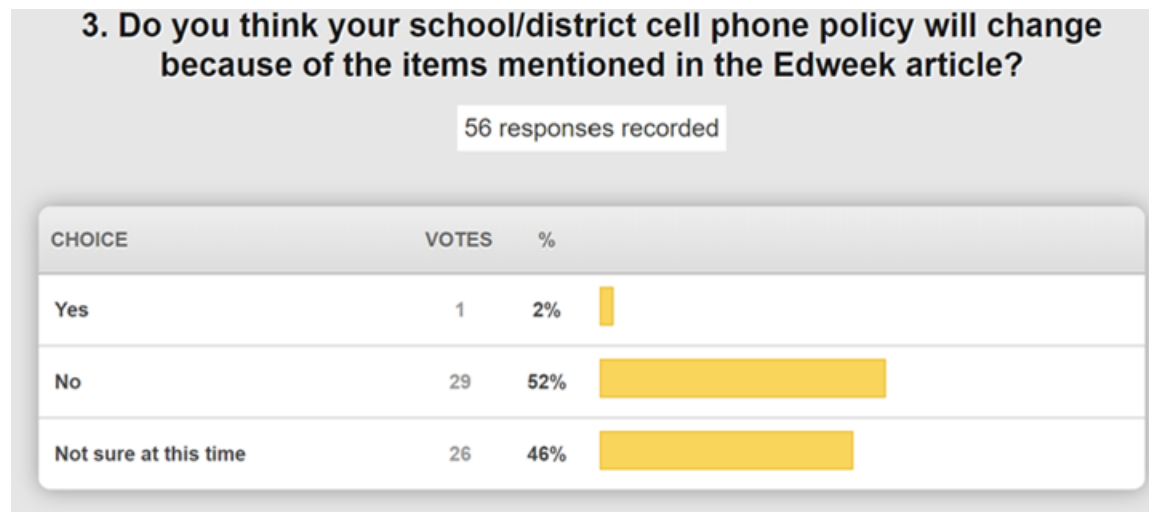
- 1) The first one to remain is “*14 (c) Student to internet connected instructional computer ratio*”.
- 2) The second is recommended to remain primarily due to safety reasons: “*3 (c) The percentage of classrooms with telephones able to access outside lines*”.

- 3) The one being recommended for removal is: *16 [(d) Percentage of computers meeting the minimum standards for acceptable computers in 17 Kentucky schools and districts pursuant to the master plan for education technology required by 18 KRS 156.670;]*

(35:20) Education Week News Article - Education Week magazine had a really good front page article about the smartphones being brought to school by K-12 students “*Schools Say No to Cellphones in Class. But Is It a Smart Move?*” As we mentioned during last month’s webcast, Kentucky has a higher percentage of our K-12 students that have Smartphones than the national average and we posed some questions around why that is and whether it is a good thing or a bad thing.

David read a few quotes from the article sharing some of the concerns with potentially banning the use of cellphones. Restricting the use of cellphones is always easier said than done and you also have to consider cell phone usage and school safety. Some parents count on their children being accessible at all times and the idea of banning cellphones creates anxiety in many students.

Dayton Independent staff commented that it is a school-level decision within their district. Cell phones are to be put away in the middle and high school to minimize distractions; they both have a 1:1 implementation. What works for one school may not work for all. They allow usage during lunch, etc. Some students have cell phones as early as the preschool classroom. The Superintendent suggests requesting input periodically and don’t be afraid to change.



Charlotte Chowning commented that several districts having a 1:1 implementation are shutting down their BYOD but you must take into consideration some of the applications that a student might use for monitoring their health. Diabetics in particular have several health applications that might require a student to have/use their phone or a personal device.

(44:17) KY K-12 Educational Cooperative Directors Event – There is an event coming up soon for all KY K-12 educational cooperative directors. The Office of Education Technology will be updating them about some specific KY K-12 edtech topics that they are most interested in learning about—Cybersafety, Cybersecurity, and eSports.

(44:54) FirstNet Update - FirstNet is a national first responders' network that AT&T is working with; we currently have 27 districts participating in this that allows a district to have priority access to connectivity in the event of an emergency. We will have more information about this for you and they anticipate national implementation by 2022. If you have questions, please contact your KETS field staff member.

(46:51) School and Community Nutrition Update – A question came up through the field staff in regard to the school lunch program. Our division of School and Community Nutrition (SCN) is working to provide a solution on the school lunch program. We'll share any information we gain on where this is at currently and where it is going.

(48:33) Phil Coleman Updates/Items:

- **KY K-12 Network/Internet Report** – We pay a lot of attention to this and we want to get this to a point where we can share it with you. Trending is a major area of review, how long it takes to resolve issues (fiber cut is 4.8 hours and non-fiber cut is 2.7 hours), and the network security (DDoS attacks, etc.) We have had 15 DDoS attacks since the beginning of school and several of these are against the same school districts; this leads to a more focused review to see where the attacks are coming from. August is typically one of the slowest months during the school year for bandwidth usage; this year we are 10% above last year's August usage.
- **KETS Service Advisories** – We sent out a recent advisory regarding an SMTP (Simple Mail Transfer Protocol) upgrade that will be happening on October 27th. SMTP is the technology that lets other applications use our email system. One example is the copier/printer being able to send you an email, etc.
- **KDE Notify Application** - KDE Notify was one of the first mobile apps we completed in conjunction with Northern Kentucky University about 10 years ago. We no longer have the capacity to maintain and update this application. There is no exact date yet, but it will be retired. The best way to receive notifications for outages, etc. is to go to <http://notify.education.ky.gov/KETS-Service-Advisory> and sign up.






(55:59) Dede Conner Updates/Items:

- **School Report Card 2018-2019 – This is FINAL week to get your data in or to make changes.**
 - Planned public release date is October; new features include:
 - Accountability dashboard includes all 2018-2019 measures with bar charts, comparisons and drill down to details
 - Dual Credit tab in the Educational Opportunity/Advanced Coursework section lists dual credit courses by subject with enrollment, completion and qualifying grade counts and student demographics
 - Career and Technical Education snapshot replaces the top five CTE pathways infographic.
 - Approval and Collection Tool Data data entry and verification period ended August 30; however the system remains open for districts to complete data entry and validation through the end of this week. If you do make changes, notify the applicable data steward.
 - School Profile Report – report must be printed, signed and available in the local district office by October 1. District must print before the Approval Tool closes.

- Accountability review period mid-September
 - Sept. 11: Quality Control Day One
 - TBD: Quality Control Day Two -- Districts and schools will receive preliminary overall accountability scores and overall star ratings, indicator ratings of very high to very low and federal classifications
- For resources, deadlines and current information, visit the [School Report Card Resource webpage](#).
- Communication – The School Data Services team uses multiple methods to inform districts about new releases/functionality changes, news, known issues, outages, upcoming releases and critical elements that affect functions and use of the Infinite Campus system. Communications methods include:
 - Email messages (KSIS Notification/Alerts) to KSIS point-of contact (POC) distribution list
 - Historically, the KDE Notify app has been an alternate notification tool for push alerts to mobile devices; however, this system will be retired soon.
 - KSIS Infinite Campus newsletter (sent by email to each KSIS POC)
 - Copies of the KSIS Notifications/Alerts and newsletters are also published on the KDE KSIS webpages – [KSIS Alerts and Notifications](#) and [KSIS Infinite Campus News](#)
- Training - For more information on the following training opportunities, go to the [KSIS Training webpage](#). Help us make sure that your district is aware and receiving training! Registrations have been higher this year, but we always encourage you to take advantage of these.





1. Are you as DTC or CIO receiving KSIS notifications with information about Infinite Campus new releases, outages, issues or critical elements that affect functionality and use of the system either through KDE Notify or KSIS email?

57 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
No	8	14%	
Not directly; however, the KSIS POC usually forwards the notifications to me	9	16%	
Yes, I receive email KSIS Notifications from Becky Jenkins, KDE Infinite Campus service manager	31	54%	
Yes, I receive push notifications regarding KSIS via KDE Notify	2	4%	
Yes, I receive both the email notifications and the push notifications	7	12%	

2. Is the information about system availability shared with schools, districts and parents?

52 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
Yes, I share that information	18	35%	
The KSIS POC shares that information	18	35%	
No, this information is not shared	9	17%	
I do not know	7	13%	

(1:04:01) Other Items/Reminders:

1. **Technology Activity Report (TAR)** – If you haven't submitted your report, you are at risk of not being part of the first KETS offer.
2. **E-rate Proposed Rulings** – There are 2 FCC proposed rulemakings and that is all still in motion. We don't anticipate any big changes to the E-rate program.
3. **Technology Academic Standards** – Prior to our next webcast, please watch for a press release regarding public comments on the technology academic standards. We really want our edtech community to help share and provide feedback on these.

Thanks for joining us and we'll see you next month!