

Summary of the October 2021 for KY K-12 Education Technology Leaders' Virtual Meeting

In case you missed it or want a refresher, the following is what we talked about during the October 19, 2021 EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at:

<https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/2021/10/edtech-webcast-october-2021/> .

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.

This was a virtual meeting with our OET staff and all the districts joining via Microsoft Teams and/or YouTube. We will continue to make these available from our KDE media portal so that you can watch the archived discussion and share with the appropriate people in your district. Several GoSoapBox poll questions were posed throughout the meeting and district EdTech leaders were asked to respond to all the questions as it assists us in planning and getting a feel for how to best move forward. Your voice and your feedback are important and extremely helpful to us.

(4:27) Preliminary Results/Major Themes of the SY 2021-2022 Digital Readiness Survey – The survey data is now in from all school districts and the analysis is underway. While formal results and trending will be sent out in November, Marty shared some preliminary results and what we are seeing at a high level. Using this high quality data as evidence is always important and we view this as part of the KETS Growth Cycle that is always wrapped around our KETS Master Plan. Some of the highlights are shared below but we advise listening to the entirety of this segment via the link to the audio/video listed above. The Digital Readiness Survey is only one component of the KETS Growth Process as depicted in the slide.



Your participation in this process, that we term the Big 4, leads to the use of these data. There are three major components within the Digital Readiness Reports data—

1. Snapshot – District/comparable data,
2. Reports – Extractable raw data, and
3. Trends – Top 10 things we are watching closely and want to bring forward.

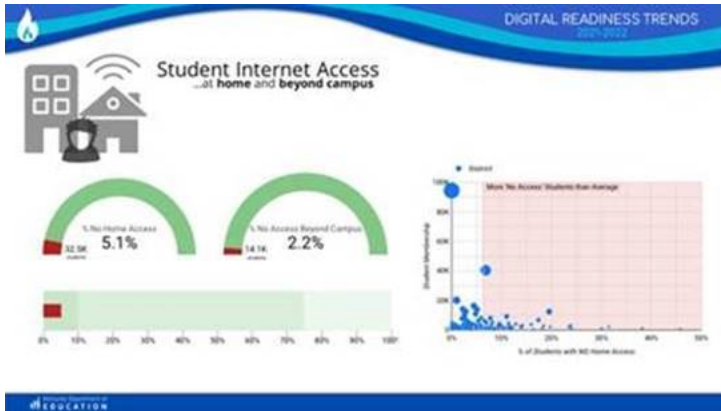
The 2021-2022 data will be published by mid-November. Data elements from the Digital Readiness Survey also help us generate our KETS Infographic that tells a visual

story; this infographic is updated semi-annually and it is used at many levels throughout the year. This year we are transitioning to a new strategy and look for our KETS infographic.

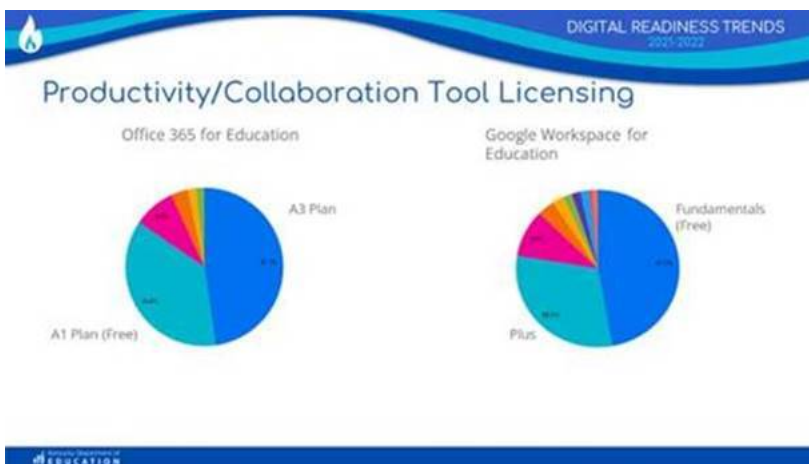
Overview of the Trends:

- Student to Computer Ratio - From .78:1 to .67:1
- Devices: Staff & Students – We look at the type, the number and the percentages of the device in our KY K-12 environment. This helps us understand the landscape as we plan/design our projects and make informed decisions for our state shared services. Our device footprint has changed dramatically over the last five years.
- Digital Readiness Storylines – We closely watch the changes in the operating system trends.
- 1:1 or BYOD Initiative Status - We always push on the idea of readiness and currently have 5 districts or 3% that are still working toward a 1:1 approach or a BYOD initiative. These data will lead to discussions we'll probably have to have soon regarding the need and use of our computer labs—especially connected to renovations and new construction.

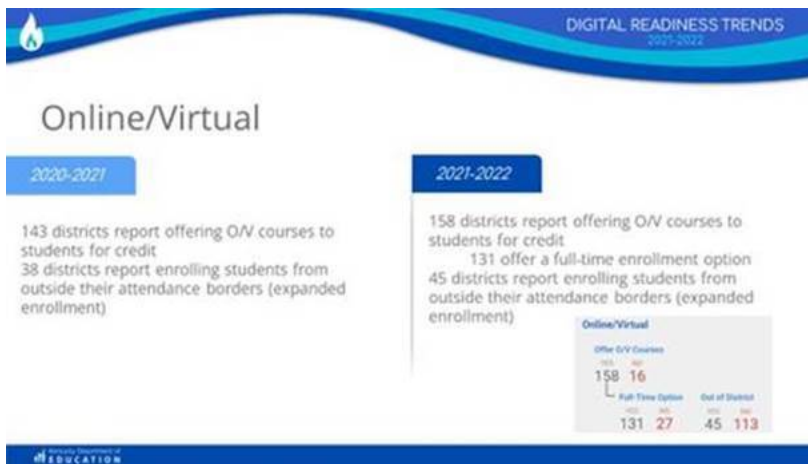
- Traditional vs. Mobile/NextGen Devices – We have 301,385 new devices while 99,788 devices were surplus. We strongly believe in mobility. Last year, in comparison, we had 193,601 new devices while only 80,609 devices were surplus. The TAR and E-rate reporting will allow us to drill down further and know the breakdown of mobile devices versus desktops; however, we anticipate a very high percentage of the new purchases are for mobile devices.
- Statewide Online Testing – We are a national leader in this space. In 2021-2022, 91% of our total devices will be capable of being utilized for statewide online assessment.
- Student Internet Access – We believe this year that our reported data, especially in this area, is extremely clean and as accurate as it can be. We are continuing to develop strategies to close this gap with affordability over accessibility being the primary factor for student Internet access beyond the school campus.



- Schools with Wi-Fi for 1:1 – 99%
- The People Side – This is one area of emphasis where we expend a great deal of time and effort because we believe in the people side of education technology. Our field staff do an amazing job in supporting our efforts in this! We have a 21% increase this past year in our CIO, Technician/Network, DLC and Data Quality positions. There will be lots of detail and trends on the people side of education technology in the formal reporting.
- Student Performance-based Technology Competencies – We will continue to push districts to have procedures for development of successful demonstration of technology-based competencies as part of the minimum graduation requirements. Currently, 103 districts have a reported plan and we know that a good number of districts are currently working to develop a strategic plan.
- Productivity/Collaboration Tool Licensing – The graphic below shows the current status of productivity/collaboration tools in KY K-12. We are watching the licensing models and we are working to evaluate and understand how each of these are being strategically leveraged.

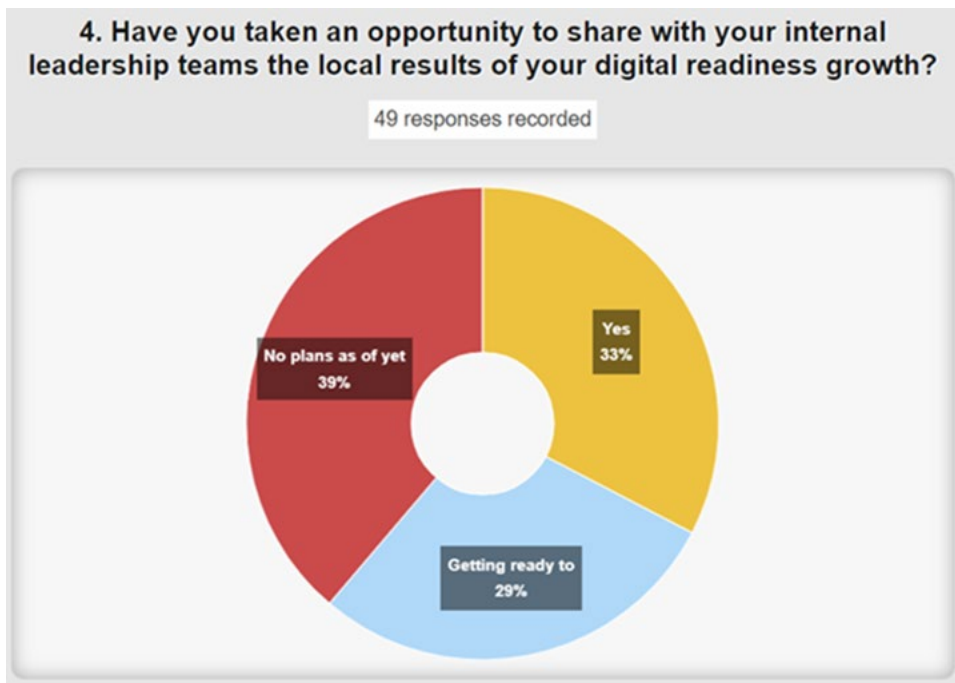


- Email Services – 62.6% are using Microsoft Office 365 Outlook and 37.4% are using Google Gmail
- Online/Virtual – This was a CIO Summit topic for us this past year and we have increased emphasis on the online and virtual offerings. During the summit, some tables didn't have enough time to discuss it fully while other tables struggled with it. We have significant growth for full-time enrollment options and expanded enrollment options.



- Supplemental Data – These data are available in the Learning Environment area. This year the Opportunity to Learn Survey has been added and provides answers and perceptions of the student experience. It uses multiple data sources to tell the full story.

We are mandated to report and demonstrate our education technology need each year and this survey (Digital Readiness) is one aspect of how we fulfill this requirement. We had the following GoSoapBox poll and discussion question on this topic:



3. While its fresh on your mind, are there any other digital readiness topics/areas that you would like to see added next year where you would like to do some statewide comparative analysis?

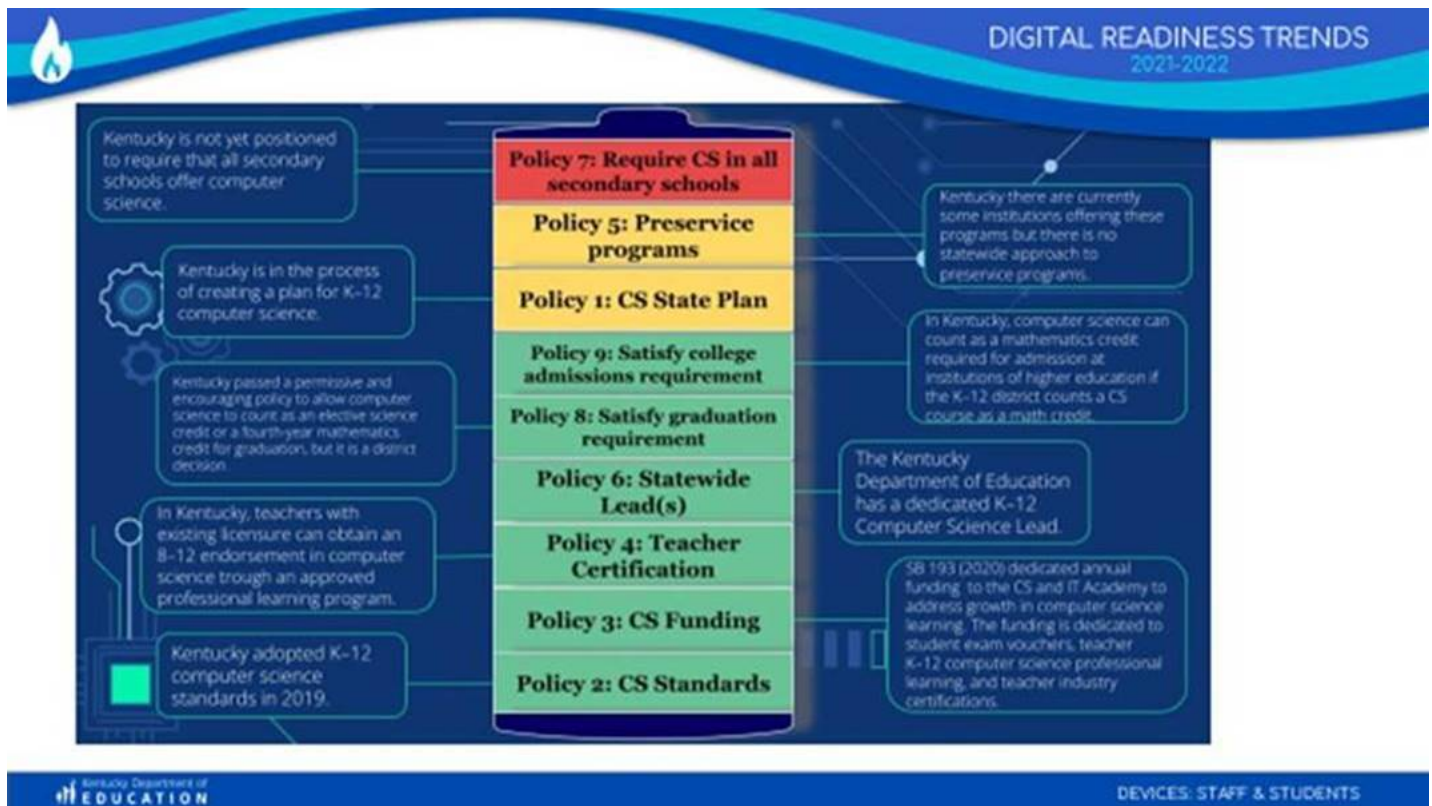
Replies

We use interactive boards that have PCs built into them. It would be nice if there was a separate category for these or interactive boards in general.

If cybersecurity is so important, why don't we include more components in that respect? This has been CoSN's premise for lobbying E-Rate to include cybersecurity in eligible services: you can't fund an internet connection and simultaneously NOT fund the security necessary to protect the organization. Frankly, this area is large enough that it should be its own report card"...and there are already any number of "scorecard" type services and metrics to confirm that this is sort of analysis is necessary for organizations.

I think it would be good to ask about the LMS situation at each school. It needs to be able to be seen (Full time vs. Part-time, and if Part-time, how often is a certified person in that role present at their school?) I think that having that information at a district's fingertips for comparative analysis would be helpful. There is a big difference between someone certified there every day, compared to twice a week, compared to once a week!

(1:07:51) KY K-12 Computer Science Plan - Kentucky is making gains toward giving K-12 students access to computer science experiences to prepare them for high-demand career fields. [Code.org](https://code.org), a national nonprofit dedicated to expanding computer science in schools, regularly assesses states progress in nine key areas to assist in achieving this goal. This work will be released soon and a draft was reviewed recently. For Kentucky, long-term sustainable growth includes strategies for our K-8 students and teachers. Here is Kentucky's current status in those key areas:



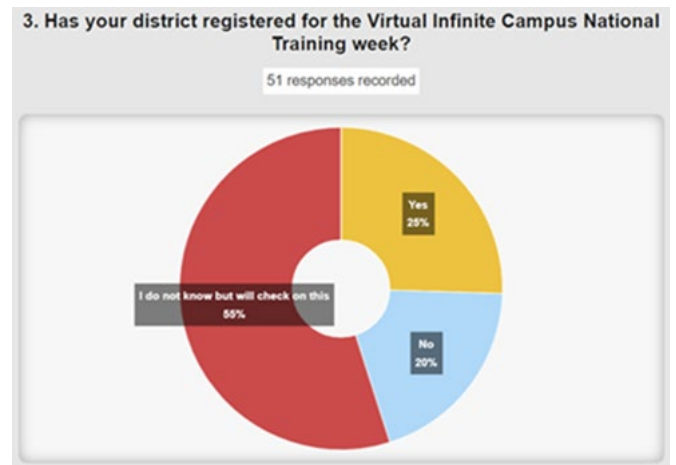
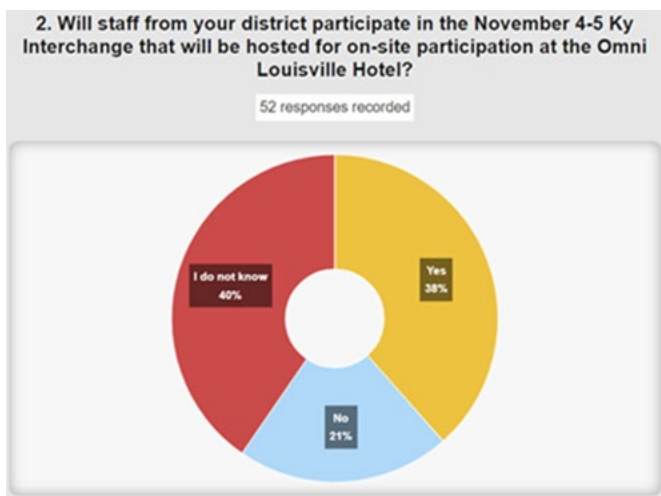
Dr. Sean Jackson is leading our Computer Science efforts and authoring the current plan. This is a collaborative work and we hope to have it complete and shared before next month's webcast.

(1:12:14) KY K-12 Data Systems Update:

- CPE/KDE Get Ready for College initiative – More details will be shared soon. November is College Application Month; asking districts to use Campus Messenger to reach out to students and families during the month of November to encourage college going. The message is changing a little bit but a communication is planned to go out to Superintendents with the ask being to send out this message during November. There will be a few versions of the communication based upon a student's GPA. CPE has

created a web page to begin the application process and to complete the FAFSA to help students/parents take advantage of all grant and loan opportunities. Completing the FAFSA doesn't commit a student to attending.

- For details on the following training opportunities, go to the [KSIS Training webpage](#).
 - Oct. 21 – Cybersecurity – statewide online training for SEA and LEA staff presented by KDE and USED. Register to receive the slides and resources. Registration and post-training survey are required to receive EILA credit. Steven Hernandez will lead this session and there is still time to register.
 - Oct. 25, 26, Dec. 20, 21 – Infinite Campus Introduction to SQL
 - Nov. 9-11 – Infinite Campus Mastering Campus Database I, Online
 - Nov. 4-5 – Ky. Interchange, onsite at the Omni Louisville Hotel (300+ already registered)
 - Nov. 15-19 – Virtual National Training Week, \$499 per district (always well received and provides access to all the content after the sessions)
 - Jan. 14 – KSIS Infinite Campus (Ky. specific) mid-year training, KDE Media Portal
 - October is Cybersecurity Awareness Month. Visit the [Cybersecurity & Infrastructure Security Agency website](#) to learn more about the campaign and for resources to help organizations to engage in the effort. #BeCyberSmart
- School Report Card public release was Sept. 29; collector will remain open through the month if changes need to be made to data previously entered. Survey data previously only available in Open House is being added to the Safe Schools section of the SRC.
- Civil Rights Data Collection – Phase 1 is Oct. 4-Nov. 5; each superintendent or designee should provide or verify the local profile information, including contact personnel and school identification. For more information visit the [KDE CRDC Resources webpage](#).
- Equity Dashboard – district feedback is good and planning a soft release on October 22 and a presentation at the Nov. Infinite Campus Interchange
- Infinite Campus now offers the ability for office staff to print seating charts created by teachers for contact tracing and use by substitutes.
- Effective Oct. 1, School Data Services welcomed Kathy Kurtz to our team. Kathy has experience working for Woodford and Pulaski County districts.



1. Please share comments on the 2020-2021 School Report Card or suggestions for the 2021-2022 card.

Replies

I think it would be good to ask about the LMS situation at each school. It needs to be able to be seen (Full time vs. Part time.)

(1:18:35) Cybersecurity Training - It is estimated that there will be 86% more attempted cyber attacks on K-12 school systems over the next 12 months. This is primarily due to so much money being available to K-12 through the federal assistance funds (e.g., CARES, ECF, etc.). Security training is not always exciting, but we hope to help everyone level up and be part of the solution. All CIOs and technology staff are highly encouraged to attend this upcoming training that is October 21st from 2-3:30 pm (EST). The number one defense we can have is a savvy staff that recognize possible threats. As stated above in the data update, this will qualify for EILA credit for those who want to pursue that and the session will be recorded for later viewing as well.

2. Please share activities that have taken place or been planned to promote Cybersecurity in your district.

Replies

We have security awareness training in both fall and spring semesters. We follow this with phishing simulation that provides additional, targeted material for users who are phished. We also shared out the upcoming USDE/KDE session with all teachers, staff, and administration, and have been encouraging all users to attend.

We have conducted training our Fall training for staff and required that each staff member meet a certain percentage on internet safety survey before they can get their PD credit. In addition, we have been sharing information with staff monthly about data security and internet safety tips. We will also be doing a follow up training in the spring with staff as well.

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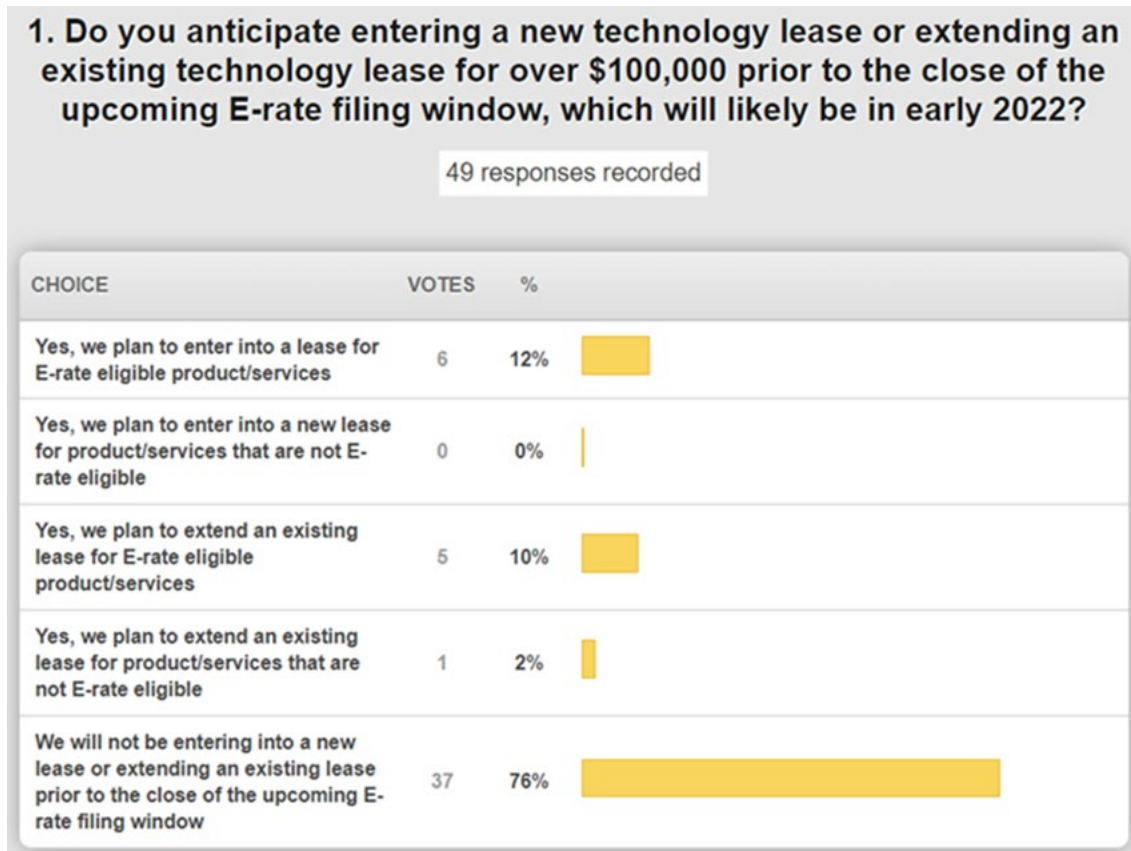
We have been sending cybersecurity awareness newsletter emails every Friday for October each with a focus. Week 1 was phishing; Week 2 was physical security. We are planning to do a phishing simulation sometime in November.

(1:21:54) Upcoming KETS offers of Financial Assistance – Mike reiterated the importance of all the data we capture at the local, state, and national level to continue and evaluate our success in our education technology programs. It is a vital part of our success in acquiring and maintaining funding at all levels while meeting legislative requirements and providing transparency.

We are proceeding with \$9/ADA first offer and this should go out in the next few days. We are still evaluating if we'll do two or three offers for the year, but \$21/ADA for the year is still an accurate projection. Keep in mind that the process has changed and the offer letters and emails will come from OET versus the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC). This notification will come to the CIO, Superintendent and the School Finance Officer from a **KETS Offers** email or from Mike Leadingham. The steps will be the same, but some steps will be moving from the SFCC to OET to assist with resource and staffing needs.

(1:27:19) Leases over \$100K - Lease packages go through multiple steps and are reviewed by several offices along the way. If something is questioned or an issue is discovered, it greatly extends the time to get all the necessary approvals. Start planning now! A moratorium window will be put in place so that we can ensure that lease reviews/approvals can be completed prior to the closing of the E-rate filing window. That moratorium date

will be announced once we know the close of the E-rate filing window so that all lease approvals get submitted in a timely fashion.








(1:33:44) eSports Update – Due to the low number of KY K-12 districts on the webcast that are involved in KHSAA’s eSports, we waited to provide an eSports update to just those districts after the official conclusion of the webcast. A message went to the KY K-12 eSports coaches from the KHSAA that district CIOs/EdTech leaders need to be aware of. In our discussion with KHSAA and PlayVS, we expressed the need to first test any new eSports games or gaming formats being considered in its ability to run over the KY K-12 Internet service and cybersecurity environment, prior to making an announcement about that game being available with certainty (e.g., Nintendo Switch).

We can’t compromise the KY K-12 Internet cybersecurity, during a time of increased cyberattacks on KY K-12, for a specific eSports game that requires critical Internet security defenses in KY K-12 to be turned off or changed in a significant way. eSports games were originally created and sold as entertainment games to be played from a home. The companies that sell these games will need to change their product to work in an enhanced cybersecurity environment, if they want their game to be played from a KY K-12 school building using our KY K-12 Internet service. eSports games, that require little to no cybersecurity in order to work, will need to be played from a location beyond the school campus (e.g., the home).

5. How would you describe your collaboration with your district's eSports coach?

51 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
Strong	15	29%	
Not Very Strong	11	22%	
None	1	2%	
Our district doesn't participate in eSports	21	41%	
I serve as the eSports coach	3	6%	

4. What strategies does your district use to connect Nintendo Switch games to the Internet since the KETS enterprise network does not allow this? What considerations are made for content management?

Replies

The esports team competes offsite at the public library.

1. play from home (preferred) 2. if its late in the day, we can connect to our hosted VOIP system (very slow) 3. mobile hotspot (connection is up and down...works about 50% of the time)

mobile hotspot but the connection is not real reliable

Thanks again for joining us today and we'll see you in November.