

Summary of the November 2022 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 November 15, 2022, EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at: <https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/2022/11/edtech-webcast-november-2022/>.

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. Please remember that in addition to these webcasts being available on the KDE Media Portal, each month's webcast is accompanied by these written summaries. We encourage you to share the link and all or any portion of these summary notes with staff throughout your district who may find the information beneficial to them in their position.

1. The key results and impacts of the KY K-12 EdTech spending collected from all 171 districts through the Technology Activity Report (TAR), and
2. The key results and impacts of the KY K-12 Digital Readiness Report collected from all 171 districts.

We've never had the data from both reports final this early and it's a great opportunity to share them together since the EdTech spending patterns have a direct relationship and impact on the inventory of the amount of EdTech stuff, the amount of EdTech staff and how much KY K-12 EdTech is available and being used.

(2:39) Cumulative Results, Trends and Analysis of the KY K-12 Technology Activity Report (TAR) - Education technology spending totals have been collected from all 171 districts for the past 6 years. A group led by Amy Young and Rebecca Bright have worked extensively on the financials behind the scenes to show this information in a visual way that shares a story. We continue to improve and enhance how this information is shared so we can convey it in a meaningful way. There are a few items that are not captured by the use of the commodity codes within MUNIS—School Facilities Construction Commission funds used for new construction and major renovations is one example. These items do get captured through the Digital Readiness Report.

EdTech vs Other Funding Source Comparison



FY2022 Cumulative Total – total spend for last school year. “Other Funds” was a larger percentage due to the large influx of pandemic stimulus funds and due to availability of the following funding sources:

- ECF (Emergency Connectivity Fund)
- ESSER I, II, III (Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief)

Other funds that go towards technology, but are not reflected in this spend (not covered by commodity codes)

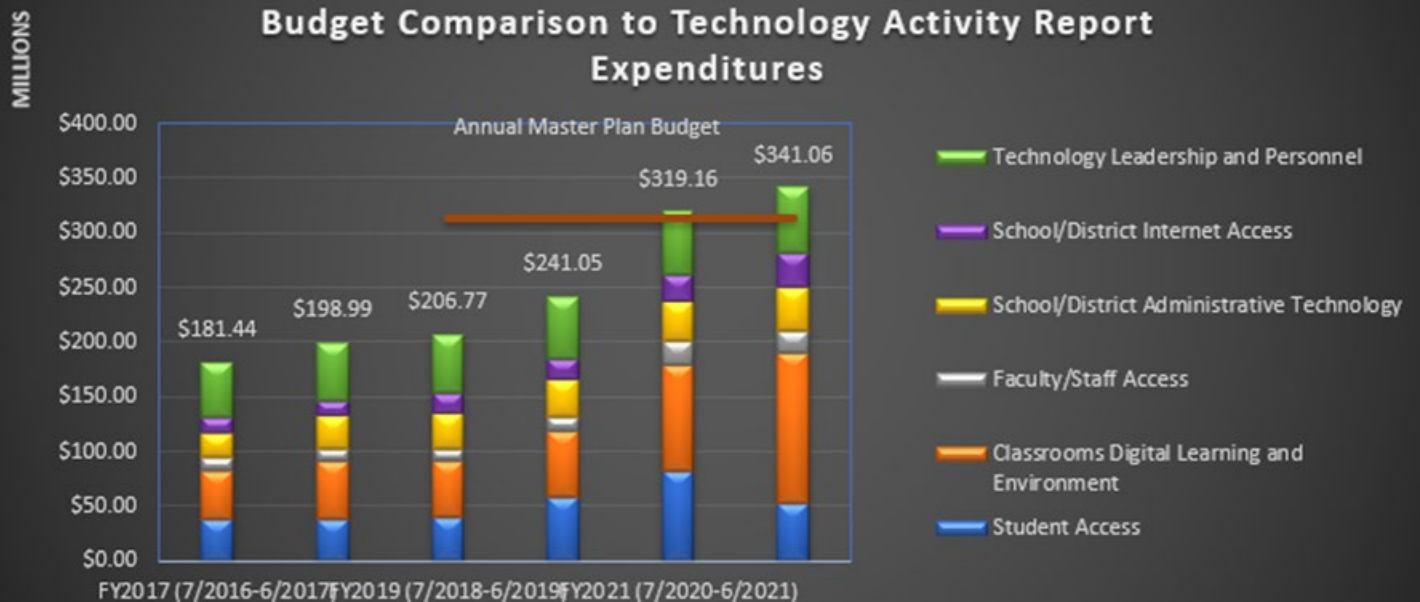
- ACP (Affordable Connectivity Program)

Historically, you can see the flat funding for KETS; however, our KETS Master Plan budget shows we need \$366M per year to meet our education technology needs. This is a key takeaway and supports our request for additional funding. The federal funds began increasing in the 2019/2020 school year and have continued to increase through the 2021/2022 school year. This current fiscal year of July 2022 to June 2023 spend is estimated even higher at \$502M. When these federal funds have expired, we will experience a funding cliff. There are several other items in addition to the federal funds that make up the “Other Funds” category and we always cover these in detail with you prior to the annual presentation to our board.

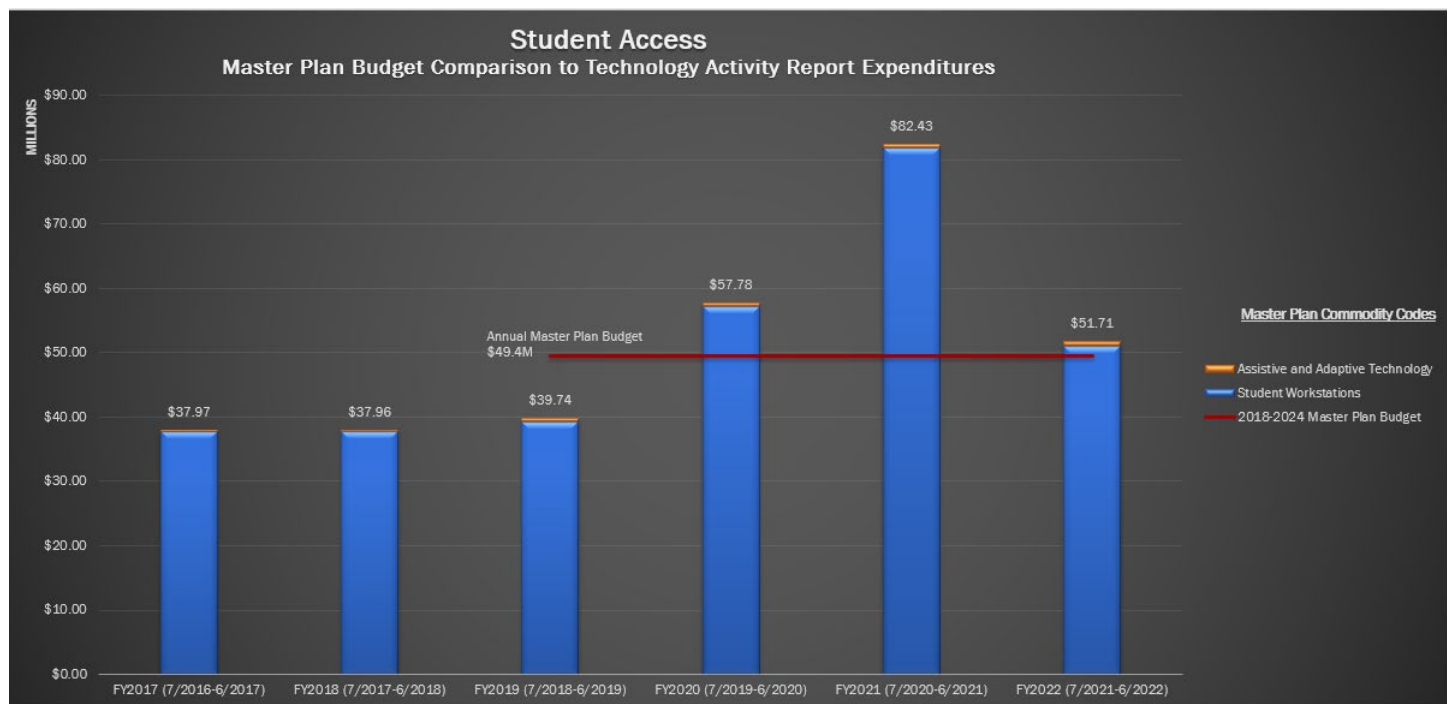
2018-2024 KETS Master Plan Budget Comparison

Budget Comparison to Technology Activity Report

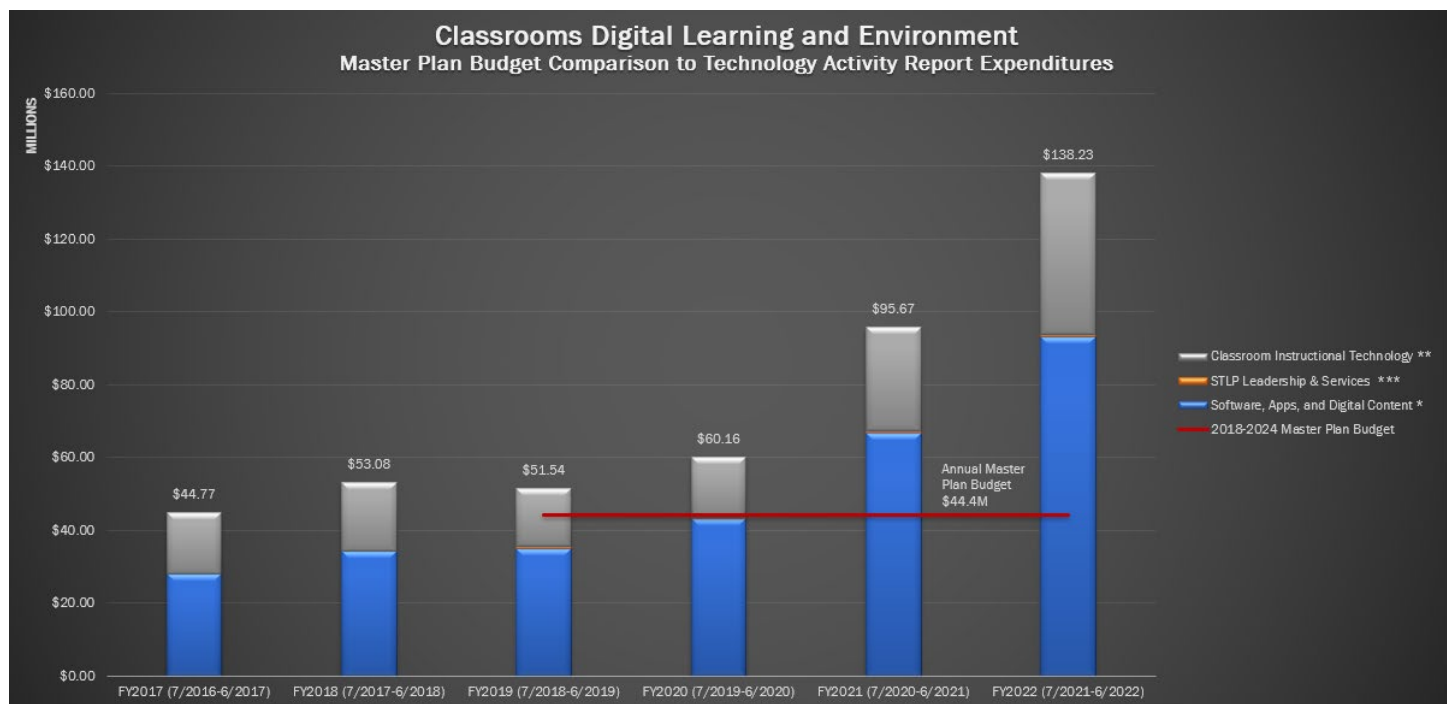
Expenditures



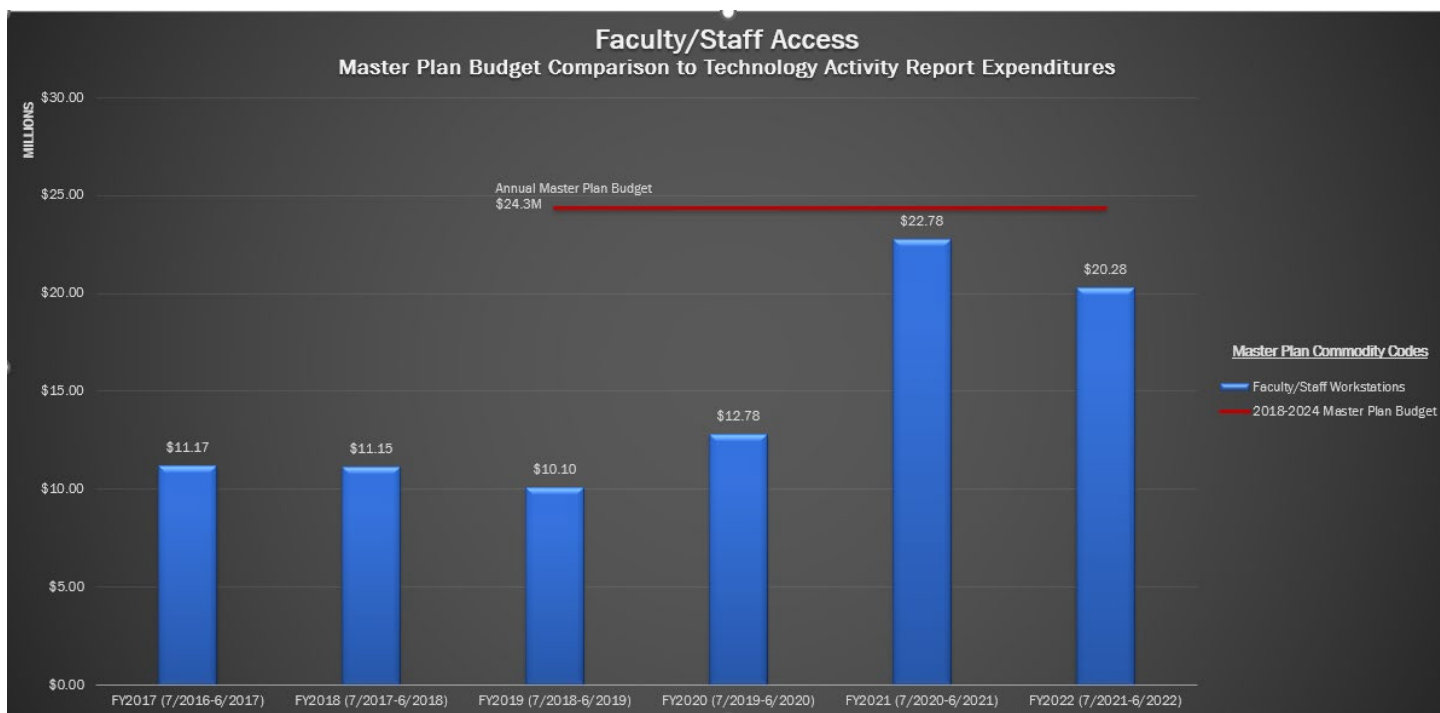
You will see all these categories in our KETS Master Plan Budget. Prior to the pandemic, we were pretty flat but then with the federal funds the Classrooms Digital Learning and Environment category skyrocketed. We anticipate an increase in the 2022-2023 school year and then there will, most likely, be a large decrease as the federal funds expire in September 2024. We hope to share some future projections based on the expected decrease in overall funding and this will also be beneficial in our additional budget request for our KETS funding. Reoccurring and operational costs account for 65-70% of the total spend.



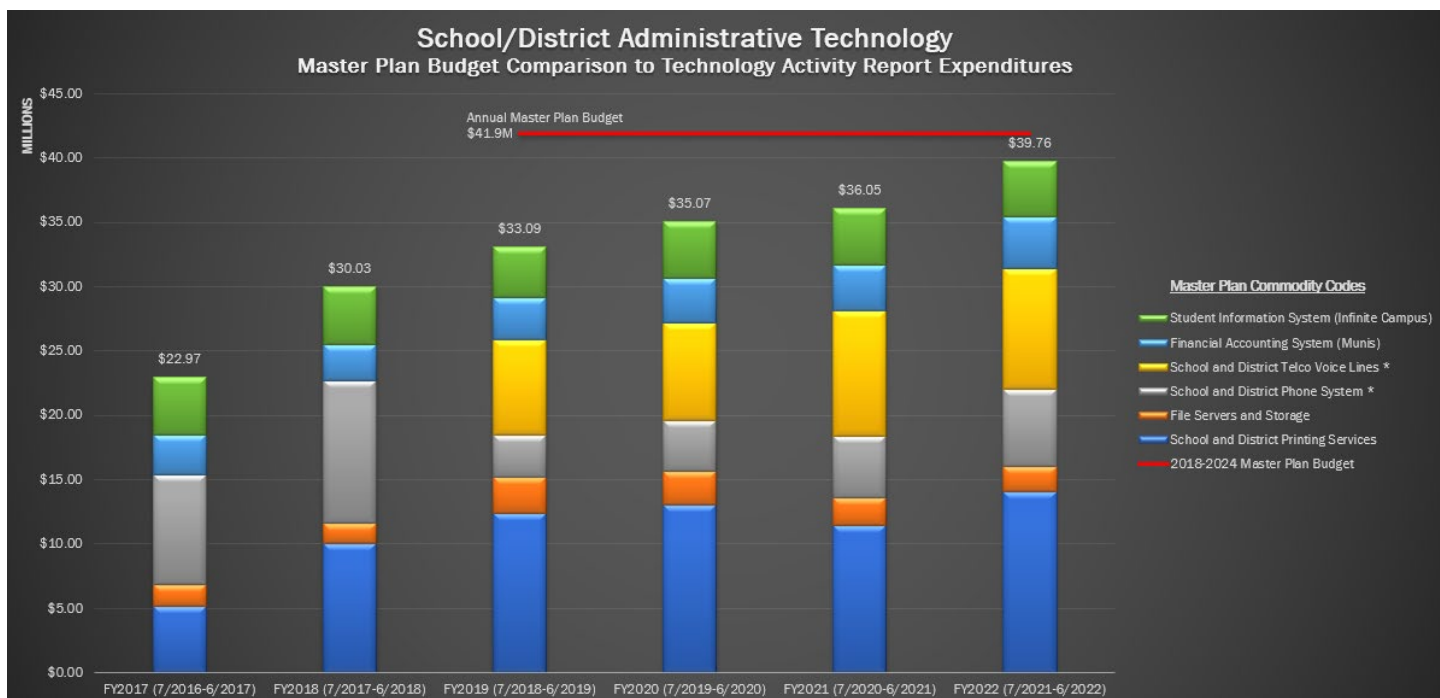
Student Access – During the pandemic our estimation for student workstations was \$49.4M and we exceeded that; this will help us plan accordingly as we begin preparing for our next KETS Master Plan. Districts were keeping workstations longer, but the increased funding allowed for refreshing and surplus of older technology.



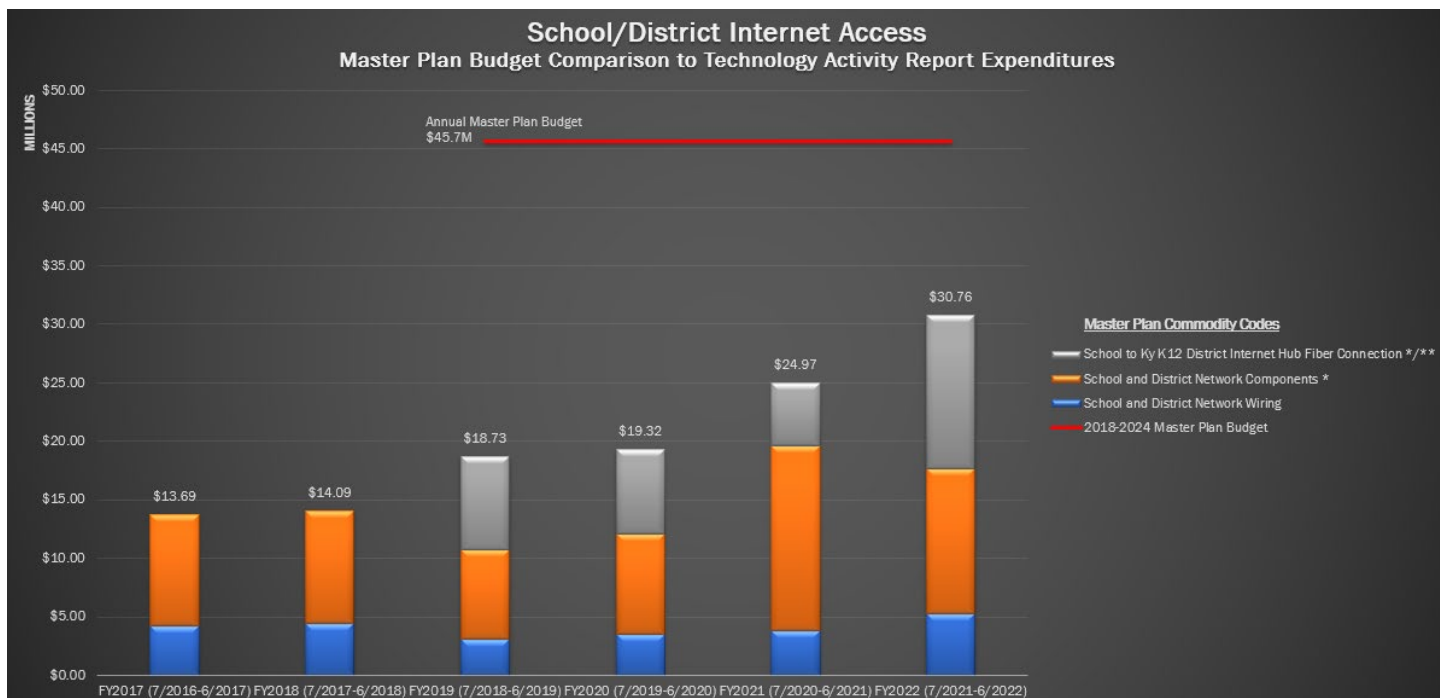
Classrooms Digital Learning and Environment – even before the pandemic we were exceeding our projection but then we had a tremendous jump; we will have to analyze if there will be a stickiness to this or will it go back down to pre-pandemic levels. This is another area that we’ll have to evaluate as we prepare for our next KETS Master Plan.



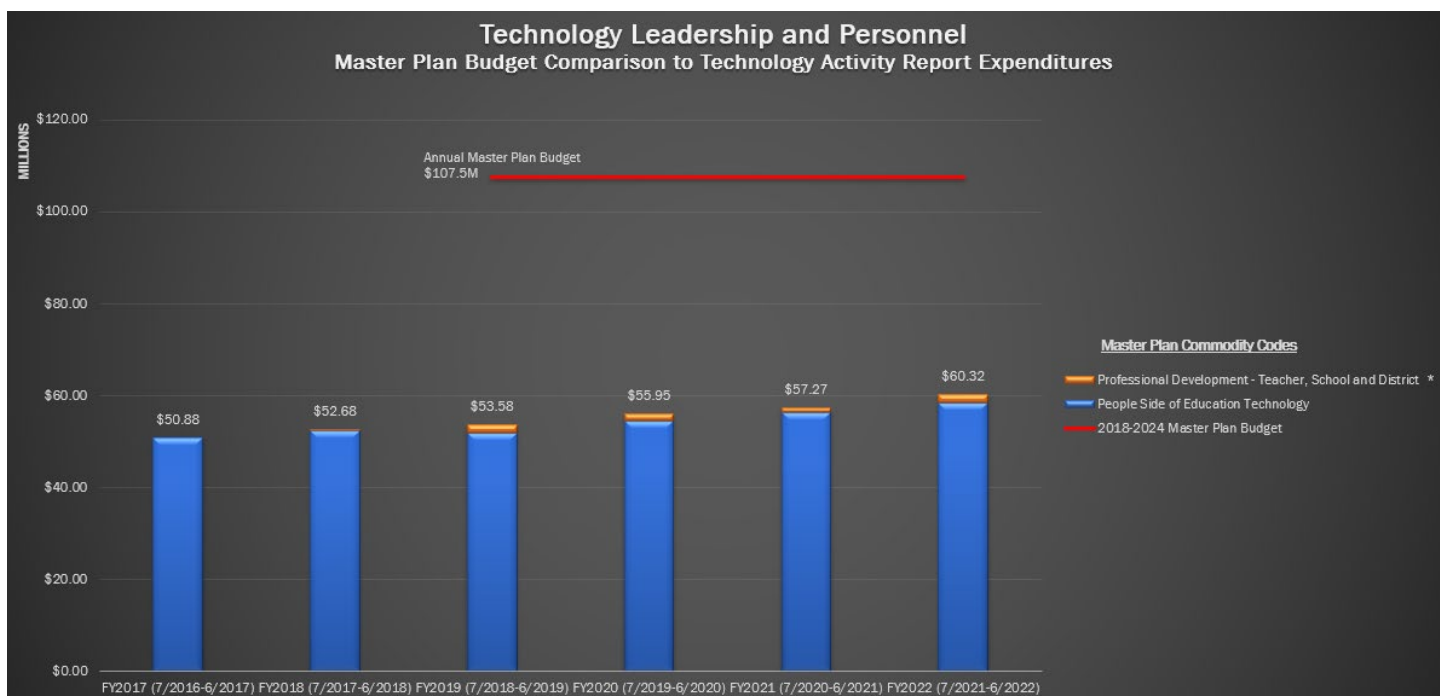
Faculty/Staff Access – The last group to get new computers is normally the staff and teachers; also, our original estimate may have been too high. Replacement of faculty/staff workstations increased dramatically during the pandemic as funds were readily available to do so. Was our estimate of \$24.3M too high? One major influence in this category has been the need to make our faculty/staff more mobile. 88% of all devices across KY K-12 are now mobile devices.



School/District Administrative Technology – Not a huge jump in these categories. The gray/yellow areas were split up in the commodity codes in the 2018/2019 school year information and since. At that time, we went through a data diet process and greatly reduced the number of commodity codes. We do see that printing services have not decreased as we anticipated; there was a small decline in the 2020/2021 school year but then it increased again in the 2021/2022 school year. The reduction in commodity codes in the 2018/2019 school year may also influence the decreases/increases in the overall data, but this was done in hopes of increasing the overall accuracy.



School/District Internet Access – The KETS Program should be applauded for not overspending and purchasing more bandwidth than needed to meet the administrative and instructional needs of the schools/districts. We do have some concern about whether we are capturing all of the costs in this area; our KETS Master Plan budget is \$45.7M and we'll have to do some further analysis as we begin working on our upcoming plan. We also need to consider the impact of the E-rate program and how we are factoring that into our budget estimates.



Technology Leadership and Personnel – This category/graphic is the most disappointing but we feel like our estimate is correct or even low. While there has been some increase, it is still well below the necessary levels to provide a quality environment for the people side and professional development needs of the schools/district. The sustainability and replacement are two major areas of the upcoming funding proposal and our request for a budget increase in the 2024 budget proposal for KDE.

(43:49) Cumulative Results, Trends and Analysis of the KY K-12 Digital Readiness Report –

We've collected the digital readiness data from all 171 school districts and have some preliminary results to share. Keep in mind that this is a growth process and not simply compliance. There are 4 main components:

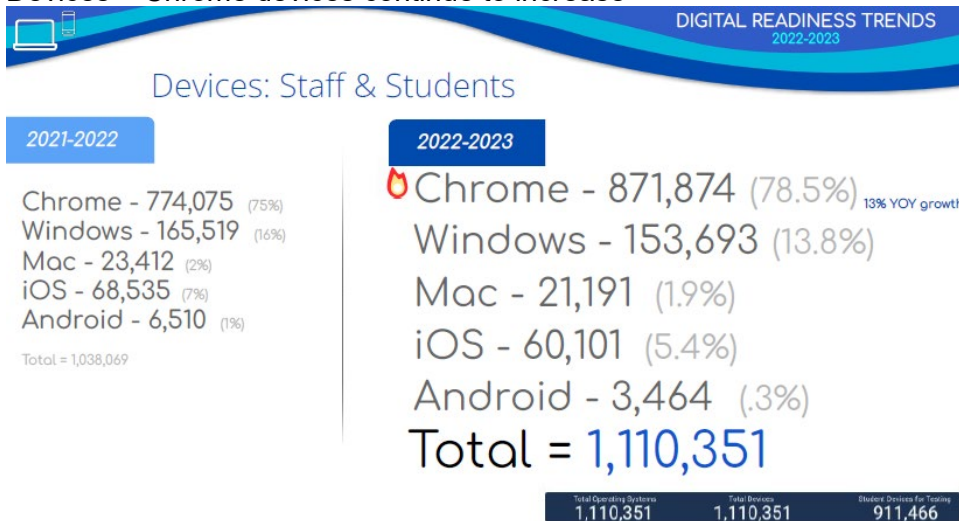
- Edtech Planning
- Technology Activity Report
- Digital Readiness Survey
- 360 Feedback

This year's data has been the cleanest and highest-quality data in the history of the digital readiness survey work. This information is used all throughout the year and we refer people with questions about our program to this routinely. We also use this data to build our annual KETS Infographic that is used to tell the story in a visual format and is an appendix in our KETS Master Plan.

Storylines will start to develop from a technology perspective. Newer devices are more secure and require less technical support. On the flip side it does require more people-side work. Another story is that we are seeing fewer computer labs that goes toward our goal of ease of access and mobility of devices. The pandemic has increased the use of mobile devices and it will be interesting to see if the trend toward more mobile devices continues moving forward.

There are many data points and discussion wrapped around this presentation; we recommend you listen and follow along with the audio/video of this presentation. Here are some of the highlighted data points:

- Student to Computer Ratio - .63:1; this past year's increase stabilized somewhat at 5%
- Devices – Chrome devices continue to increase



- Only have four districts that don't have a plan for 1:1 or BYOD initiative
- 13 districts that have a "digital equity" gap
- In years past we haven't seen high numbers of surplus workstations; this year's data shows us it is much higher with 138,164 devices surplus. It costs more and takes more staffing to support older technology.
- 88% of our devices are mobile—HUGE
- 94% of our devices can be used for online assessment – we have worked hard to increase this % and purchasing more modern devices that can be used for assessment purposes.



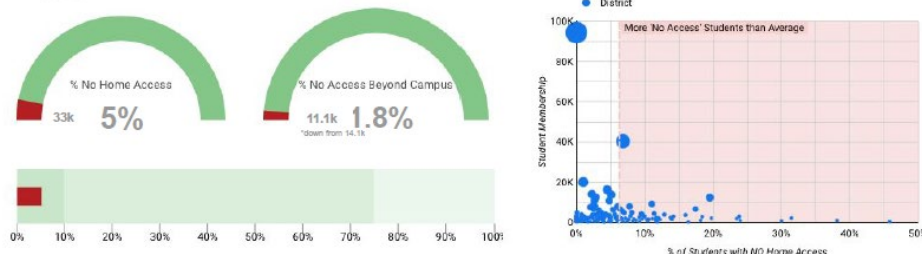
Statewide Online Testing



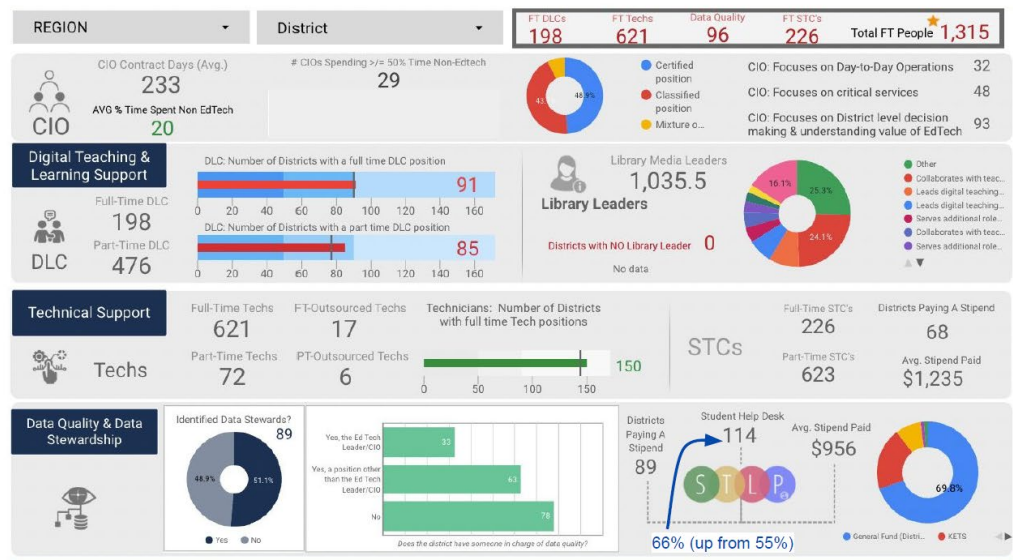
- Student Internet Access at home and beyond the school campus - This has held firm over the last few years, but we are hoping that the discount programs for Internet access begin to make a positive difference in this area. We've learned that affordability is the biggest factor for a student not having access at home or beyond the school campus. Digital equity is made up of access to a device, access to the Internet, and access to high quality instructional content. There are two major ways this is being approached – making it more affordable through state/federal discount programs or districts are providing some type of Internet accessibility for students to take with them. We continue to work to lower this 5% who have no home access and 1.8% of students who have no access beyond the school campus. We should see these percentages continue to drop over the next few years due to accessibility, affordability and school provided resources to close the gap.



Student Internet Access ...at home and beyond campus



- 99% of our school buildings have dense Wi-Fi capability
- 789 school buildings are connecting at greater than 1Gbps
- People-Side: This is our most important work in ensuring that the technology resources are high quality and being used to transform learning. In 2017 we published the People Side study and it is part of our KETS Master Plan. At that time, we had 826 full-time people and this last year we reported a 27% gain in positions with 1,315 staff in full-time positions. We are still behind according to the formula, but this is an excellent sign. The funding side of the conversation and the influx of federal funding is absolutely a part of the conversation; we are reviewing and will be projecting a funding cliff in order to sustain these levels of staffing. It was pointed out that identified data stewards has increased along with the number of student help desks.

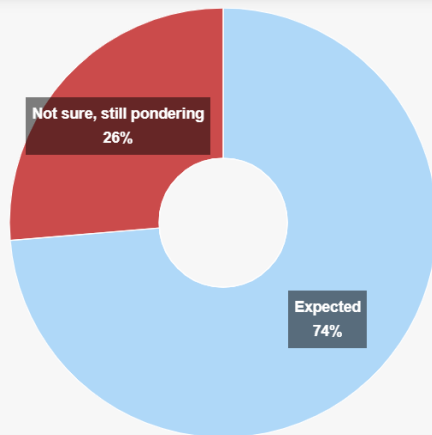


- 476 Part-Time Digital Learning Coaches and 198 Full-Time Digital Learning Coaches
- 0 schools do not have a Library Media person; however, some share across the schools and districts making our number 1035.5
- 72 Part-Time Techs and 621 Full-Time Techs and more districts are also outsourcing this work.
- Growth of 226 fulltime school technology coordinators (STC) with over 800 full and part time STCs
- 114 student led help desks; that's 66% of our school districts!
- Data stewardship/leadership has seen growth; we now identify 89
- CIO Contract Days have remained stable over the last three years
- There are some questions that we've field-tested through the latest survey and they will not be part of the current story or Infographic. Some of these are project-related and already outdated, but it was important data when collected and will help further our project planning and implementation strategies. This slide won't published publicly but it was important to capture for our ongoing work.
- Student Digital Experiences – This is very good information and we reference this a lot in dealing with our vendor community. This also shows us when a certain technology or service is being used by a majority of our customers. Here are some of the main story points:
 - Meeting tools are here to stay and we are seeing some districts moving beyond the free tools in this arena. 83 districts have leveled up with Google and 121 districts have done the same with Office 365.
 - Individual Learning Plans (ILPs) used to be a service purchased at the state level and the usage was very small. Having synchronous tools and learning management systems in place builds into strategies and planning for our master plan. 92% of our districts have a strategic approach to a learning management situation.
 - Digital citizenship is a core part of our DNA; however, 5 of our school districts are still working toward a meaningful implementation
 - STLP has higher participation
 - 125 schools' districts representing 613 schools provide computer science learning opportunities
 - 151 school districts are offering online/virtual courses; this is mainly supplemental but we do have some districts who have a full-time offering
- Email Services – not a lot of change/transition; 66 districts are using Google Gmail and 108 districts are using Microsoft Office 365 Outlook.

This is a lot of information and this will be available publicly very soon. There was a suggestion to show some of the data on enrollment versus ADA; this is a modification we'll consider moving forward. We reviewed the following GoSoapBox poll questions as we concluded this portion of the webcast:

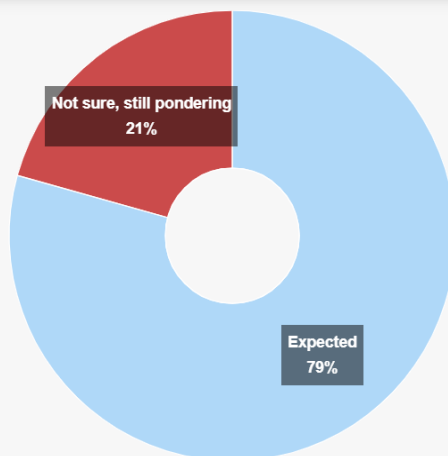
7. In relationship to your district, are the cumulative results/percentages for the TAR for all 171 districts surprising or not surprising to you?

38 responses recorded



8. In relationship to your district, are the cumulative results/percentages for the KY K-12 EdTech Digital Readiness for all 171 districts surprising or not surprising to you?

29 responses recorded



(1:10:32) Digital Equity Strategy – For this discussion, we are focusing on Internet access beyond the school campus through the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) for students in low-income households. Kentucky does have 33% of eligible households receiving the ACP benefit and this is well above the national average. We do have areas that aren't aware or receiving this information. Marty and DeDe have discussed with other states and are looking at ways to make this an easier process by making the program availability form available through Infinite Campus Parent Portal. There are other areas of assistance through local libraries and local FRYSCs. What else can we do to get the word out regarding these federal programs? In terms of digital equity, it is a huge opportunity. We were hoping that the ACP would make it easier to apply but there is still substantial paperwork to prove verification of eligibility. You can see the status both statewide and by city on the Education Superhighway site at <https://www.educationsuperhighway.org/no-home-left-offline/acp-data/#dashboard>.

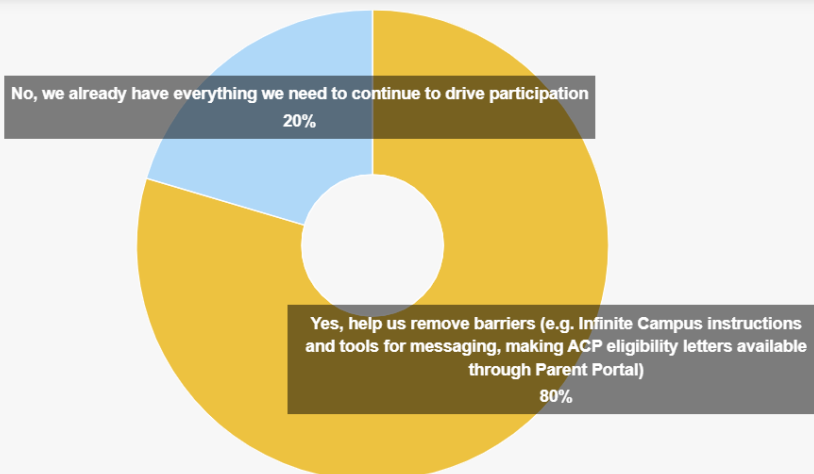
1. KY is currently above the national participation average with the Affordability Connectivity Program (ACP) program. Has your district already communicated/marketed to families about the ACP?

46 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%
Yes	29	63%
In process, working on this now	7	15%
No current plans to promote the ACP that I'm aware of	10	22%

2. Do you think it would be helpful for KDE/OET to find more ways to make ACP participation easier for your families?

49 responses recorded



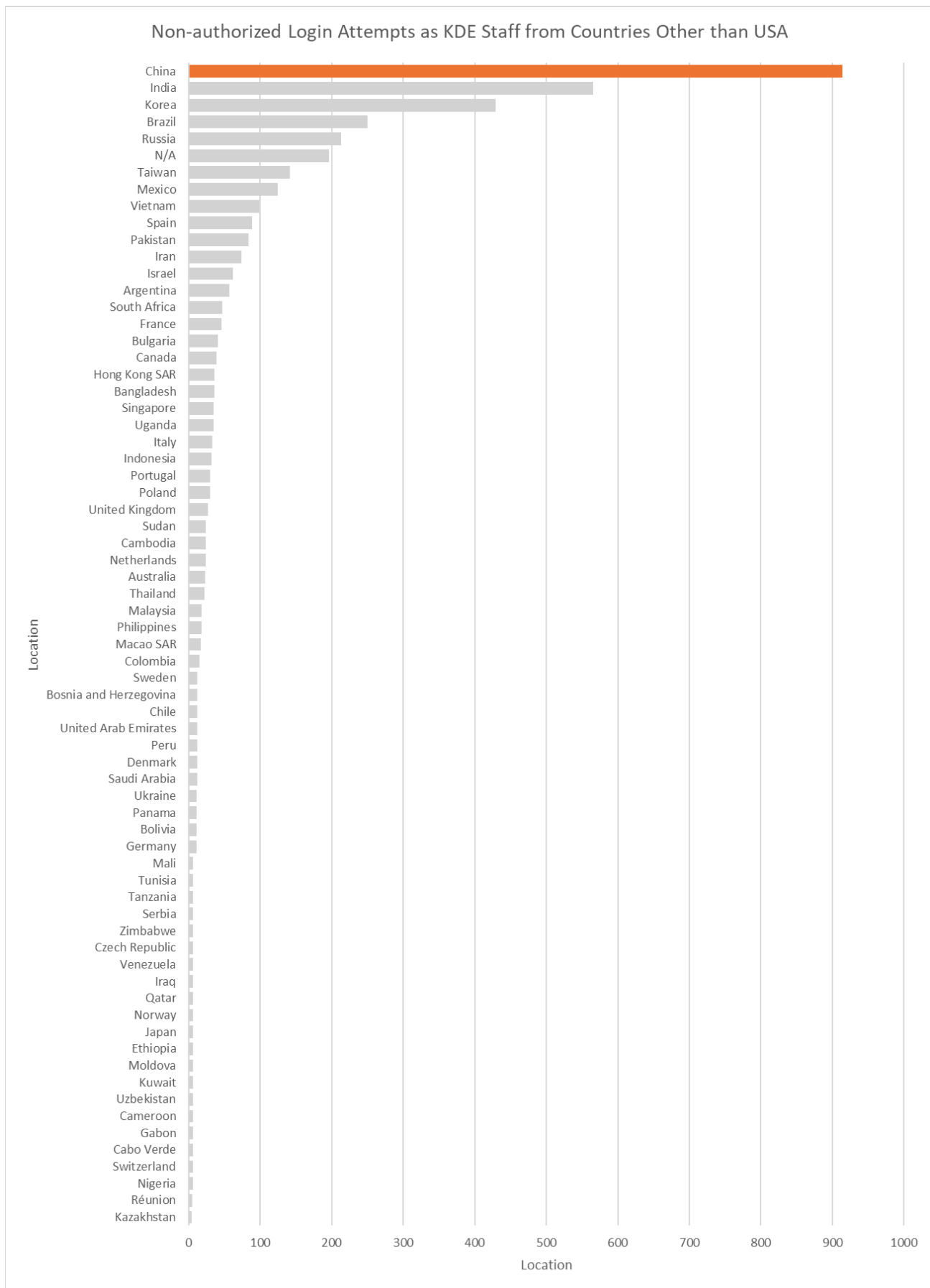
(1:19:47) KY K-12 Virtual and Remote Instruction Regulation Update – Our new regulation, 704 KAR 3:535, for Full-time enrolled online, virtual and remote learning programs was approved by the Administrative Regulations Review Subcommittee with some technical amendments by LRC staff. It will now continue through the legislative process. This has been a joint effort with other offices within the Kentucky Department of Education and will be in place before next school year; several districts are doing this right now under a temporary waiver and this will put a more permanent solution in place. We have already created a new school classification (A8) for this and there will be a program guide to assist districts as we implement this new regulation.

(1:22:37) Follow-up on KHSAA eSports games: Nintendo Switch/PlayStation/Xbox and Cybersafety -We have spoken to this extensively over the last few months. We have three takeaways:

1. Nintendo Switch – This conversation is specific to a district-owned Nintendo Switch using a state provided internet content management service. It currently has the ability for folks to browse the Internet. Because of this, we have been performing testing around the question of “Can you play a sanctioned eSports game with the parental controls turned off so that the student cannot browse this internet? This worked! Thanks to Lee County for testing this out.
2. KHSAA – David spoke with KHSAA staff about whether we need to work on this same testing strategy for the Xbox and the PlayStation and the answer is no because districts do not purchase these devices for eSports play. Both of these platforms also have the capability to browse the Internet.

3. New Information— This is still evolving. We have never had a problem with the Nintendo Switch being played over our KY K-12 Internet service, but we weren't going to turn off any of our internet content management to make that possible. We haven't changed anything but the Switch is now working over the KY K-12 Internet service and we aren't sure what has changed—no one can verify any specific settings or configurations that have been revised. Some additional testing was done with another school district and it did not work. We'll keep you informed in what we are able to verify or find out. We suspect this is due to either Nintendo and/or PlayVS making changes to their software that now allow it to work in a cybersecure environment like ours.

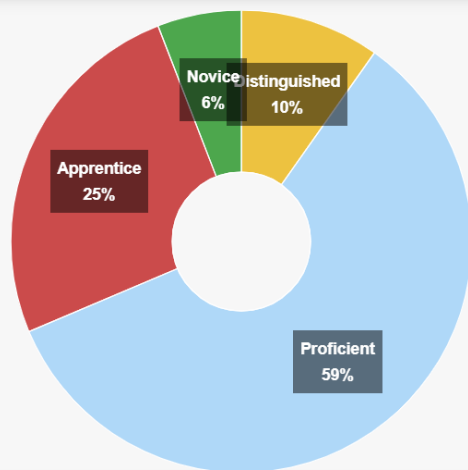
(1:27:41) Cybersecurity Update – Bob Hackworth, our Chief Security Officer, shared a chart depicting the attempted cybersecurity attacks last week from other countries on KY K-12. This was also shared with the KDE Leadership and we wanted to pass it along to show the impact and why we perform geo-blocking. This shows us that attempts to access our network from other countries are numerous and continue to support why having Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA) and geo-blocking in place to mitigate the risks is best practice.



(1:31:49) GoSoapBox Review – Before proceeding to our last few topics, we took a few minutes to review the responses to the remaining poll questions:

3. Please rate your familiarity with the school report card, i.e. you know what it contains, how to compare data across state and district levels, where to find data sets and how to download files.

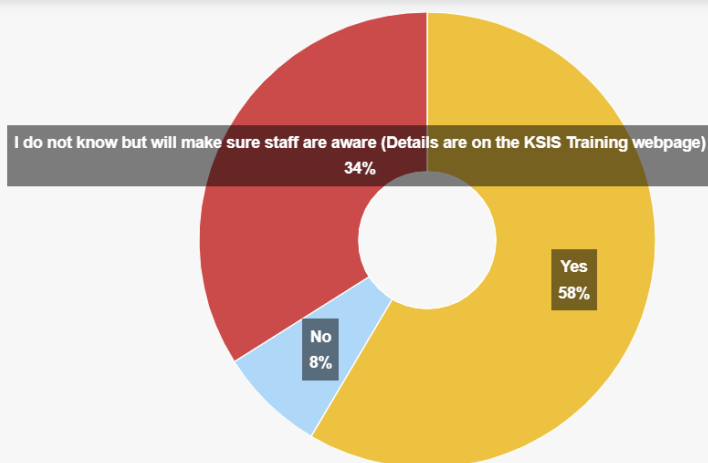
51 responses recorded



School Report Card is out and the training has been posted on the [KSIS Training webpage](#). Pull up your district's card as you view and follow the training.

4. Will your district be represented at the KSIS Infinite Campus Interchange?

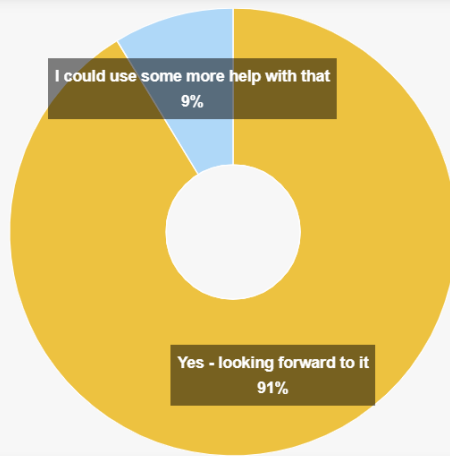
53 responses recorded



Dec. 1-2 – Infinite Campus 2022 Interchange @ Omni Louisville Hotel. This is a really well organized and high quality event. We encourage your district to have participation and it is especially good for newer staff.

6. The 2022-2023 Digital Readiness Report will be publicly available ahead of schedule this year. Soon after, the Digital Readiness Infographic will be published. Will you plan to review these reports and drive conversations in your schools and district wide?

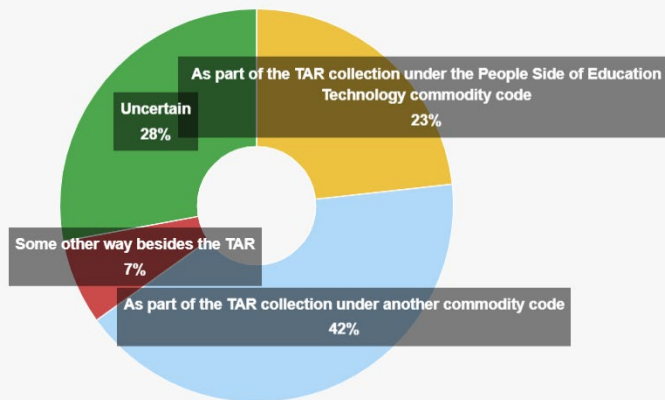
46 responses recorded



For the 9% who can use more help, our field staff will have some resources for you.

5. As more districts outsource Edtech support functions and/or services, which of the following best represents how your district is capturing these costs?

43 responses recorded



We will continue to work on how items are being captured.

Other Items to Note -

- December's webcast will be December 13 due to the holiday season and school winter breaks.
- Thanks for your contribution to the data collections that help us complete all the work we shared today.
- Reminder: Annual Top 5 feedback from all 171 districts, all OET staff and all KDE offices due NLT 15 December.