Summary of the June 2023 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 June 20, 2023, EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at: https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/district-technology-leadership-webcast/2023/06/edtech-june-2023/.

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. 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.

(:55) 2025-2030 KETS Master Plan for Education Technology Update – Things are going well, and it is our intention to take our next plan to August's Kentucky Board of Education meeting. Once approved in August, it does have to go through several steps in the regulatory process to replace the document incorporated by reference. We do not consider this version a complete re-write, but rather a modernization. The sections that received considerable focused time are the KETS Master Plan Budget, the KETS Product Standards, and the Areas of Emphasis. All of this work was done using the data we have on spending trends, the feedback you provided to us over the years as well as a targeted session during a previous CIO Summit. We are currently looking at an increased projected cost of $430M; this number is not final and could alter slightly. In the KETS Product Standards section, there is a more clear distinction between basic consumer level and advanced enterprise-level workstations. An additional gear has been added in the Areas of Emphasis. We'll go through the proposed KETS Master Plan in more detail during our July webcast and our KETS Engineers will also spend some dedicated time on the new plan during upcoming meetings to ensure everyone has a good understanding of the changes in the updated plan.

(13:37) Next Generation KY K-12 Internet (NGKI) Update - Work is progressing and we remain confident in being able to meet the transition date of July 2024. There is a contingency plan if we do not meet our deadline and this would have some monetary consequences, so our schedule will be aggressive as we strive to meet the July 2024 transition date. ENA is reporting positively on the equipment needs and back-end work and all equipment orders are in motion. Some districts do have some decisions/action necessary in regard to voice contract services.

Milestones:
- Project is being worked through the KETS Field Staff, the internal project management team, and the ENA project team.
- End of July/First of August – The make-ready phase of the project will begin, and this is the actual construction of fiber going to the property, across the property, and in the buildings. Communications will begin in the next few weeks. On the back side of that, you will need to inform and plan for the construction phase at your district/building.
- Turn-Up Schedule – We plan to move at a fairly slow pace during the October to December timeframe and then pick up the pace as we go into 2025.

(20:23) Recent Nationwide Cyberattack – COT and state agencies use a software application called MoveIT for secure file transfer of sensitive data. We don't know at this time of any data being exposed within state government. We have received information that the version/updates of the application being used across state government has not been impacted by the attack. We receive data from other state agencies as well as a few outside school districts and agencies. A decision has been made not to move to another platform for secure file transfer, but we are looking into other long-term strategies. Google Drive, One Drive and SharePoint can be

configured to allow us to use our current credentials and security features for this purpose. Small files can be encrypted and sent via email while these other file transfer strategies can transfer very large amounts of data. The first of three attacks began on Memorial Day weekend and COT had already updated the software application past the version that experienced the vulnerability. At this point, the MoveIT platform is now more secure and vigilant, but we will still pursue other secure ways to complete our secure data transfer needs. We do need to have a backup plan as well as a long-term plan. Any known exposure to KY K-12 data will be communicated to you immediately.

(29:53) KETS RFPS & Contracts Updates –
- Connected User Experience (CUES) – This RFP is now at the one-yard line in the process, and we expect to see it posted very soon.
- SEEK – This RFP resulted in no award of a contract and there were multiple contributing factors. There will be a new process put in motion to update and modernize the SEEK system.
- School Report Card (SRC) – The RFP has now closed and will now begin going through the evaluation process.

(32:51) Online Testing Status/Final Numbers for SY 2022-2023 – The Office of Education Technology (OET) strives to have good relationships with the other KDE offices and David meets regularly with Rhonda Sims of the Office of Assessment and Accountability (OAA). We also have a liaison within OET, Paul Shoemaker, who is part of the online testing environment and works collaboratively with OAA on this effort.

We are very proud of the success within KDE and school districts in regard to online testing. Several states have struggled with online testing and never attained the successful results that we have here in KY K-12. The 2023 Kentucky Summative Assessment (KSA) testing window opened on April 25th and was completed on June 2nd. A total of 1,579,801 test sessions were completed. Peak activity was reached the week of May 8th with 929,123 tests completed and 210,839 tests being completed on May 11th as a single day's high activity.

We did have a few Internet outages that impacted a small percentage of districts but overall, everything went very smoothly. David shared some additional charts and statistics related to online testing:

2022 – 2023 Online Test Count Totals
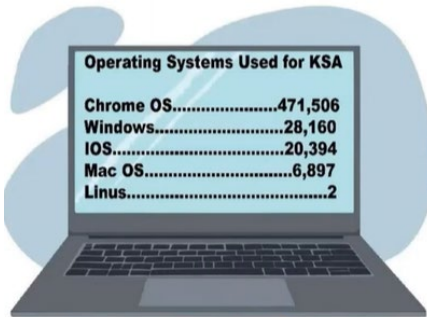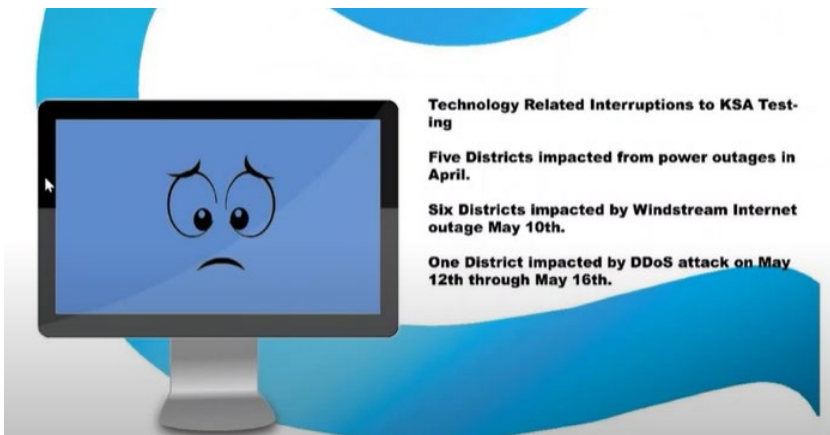2022 Fall ACT (Seniors): **48,258**

2023 Spring ACT (Juniors): **44,248**

2023 CTE E-SESS / Track: **31,577**

2023 KSA: **1,579,801**

2022-2023 Total Completed Online Test Sessions: **1,703,884**

2022 – 2023 Kentucky Online Testing Activity Comparison
The total number of online tests completed in 2022 was 1,647,395. This includes the Fall ACT and CTE testing programs. The total number of tests completed in 2023 was 1,703,884. The increase was due to the addition of Fall ACT testing and a marked increase in online participation in Spring ACT testing. An additional 56,489 tests were completed in 2023.

Technology Related Interruptions to KSA Testing

Five Districts impacted from power outages in April.

Six Districts impacted by Windstream Internet outage May 10th.

One District impacted by DDoS attack on May 12th through May 16th.

Operating Systems Used for KSA

Chrome OS.......................471,506
Windows...........................28,160
IOS...................................20,394
Mac OS..............................6,897
Linus.......................................2

This information about the platform used was also a consideration during the development of 2025-2030 KETS Master Plan as well

(37:57) Leases over $100K Follow-up – David referred back to the summary notes from the May edtech leaders' webcast. We brought us those notes and reviewed the portion about checking on the status of a lease:

If you want to check on the status of a lease, we recommend you do one of two things:

> *Option 1: Check directly with your district legal point of contact or*
> *Option 2: Send inquiry to the same mailbox as in the submittal steps - leasesover100K@education.ky.gov.*

__Do not send__ an inquiry about the status of your lease approval to the OET Associate Commissioner position, because OET nearly always will approve the district's lease for technology related items within the first 20 minutes on the same day OET receives it through the leasesover100K@education.ky.gov. OET's role in the approval process ends at that time. Thus, if you do contact the OET Associate Commissioner, that position is just going to point you back to Option 1 and/or Option 2.

If your district has a legal related issue related to the lease your district's legal rep and/or lease point of contact should talk with Lindsey Swartz, who is in the KDE Office of Legal Services. Her direct supervisor is Associate Commissioner of the KDE Office of Legal Services not the OET Associate Commissioner.

The other item reviewed today was the checklist that Lindsey Schwartz went over with us last month. That form will become a document incorporated by reference into the newly promulgated regulation that is going before the Kentucky Board of Education at an upcoming meeting. There are three (3) main reasons that approval of a district lease is delayed:
1. The indemnity clause
2. The district does not include all the documentation included in the lease
3. The district's legal point of contact is not included with the lease submission
   Note: According to the GoSoapBox poll question posed last month, 90% of districts submitting lease packages do have legal representation.

(45:24) e-Games (a/k/a eSports) Follow-up – David was able to join the East Region Association of Technology Coordinators (ERATC) annual summer conference last week at Dale Hollow State Park and was able to have good discussion and information gathering in regard to e-games. The issues we are experiencing relate primarily to the Nintendo Switch and David intended to set up a meeting with eSports coaches and district CIOs that use Nintendo Switch along with representatives from OET/KDE and KHSAA. The coaches he talked with at ERATC shared that the use of the hotspots for the Nintendo Switch games do not provide enough reliability or bandwidth for effective play.

Our first priority is to protect the mission critical operational time during core instructional hours. The second priority is the cybersafety of the KY K-12 network—these considerations have been in place since the late 1990s. The third is cybersecurity – we don't reduce or build additional cybersecurity frameworks to enable the playing of these devices. E-rate is also very particular about how our instructional network is utilized. During a separate webcast for the coaches and CIOs, we will discuss some possible options. We've spent a considerable amount of time in Lee County troubleshooting and testing; the Nintendo Switch works in Lee County, and we are trying to determine the how and the why. When looking at and determining possible alternative solutions, you have to answer these questions:

- Can you do it?
- Should you do it?
- How much does it cost?
- Who pays for it?
- Do you have a legal purchasing mechanism?

Other points:
- There is a possibility of installing a separate line/hub to have a separate field of play. Cybersafety/cybersecurity laws and best practices would still have to be followed. We are working with ENA to see how possible it is that the Nintendo Switch will work in the new environment.
- The most trouble they have with the environment is with the Nintendo Switch even at the championship events—they go to another location with a completely different Internet service.

(56:30) Chromebooks Strategy Update – Chromebooks are not just for students but adults as well. Within KDE, the Read to Achieve program was allocated $30M over the next two years. We've taken a look at how to best provide equipment to the 80 new positions that will be created through the implementation of this program; we are planning to supply these positions Chromebooks as their primary workstation. When David discussed this with ERATC CIOs, about 1/3 of them currently use this strategy (Chromebooks as a primary workstation) for their teachers.

(59:00) Other Items to Note:
- CUES Update/News - The principal premise behind the Connected User Experience (CUES) is to give an individual a single, secure, cloud-based identity to access whatever they need to access whether it is cloud-based or on-premise. Just a few months ago we wrapped up access to MUNIS with a user's common identity they use for other KETS services and secure that identity for the MUNIS platform. Hats off to everyone involved!!!
- School Report Card (SRC) – The SRC opening up in July and a note will be going out to Superintendents next week. Now is the time for WAAPOCs to update district contacts.
- Infinite Campus is switching from READ COMMITTED to READ COMMITTED SNAPSHOT transaction isolation level with Campus.2331. If the district maintains any custom SQL code, whether developed within the district or provided by Infinite Campus or a third-party, the district may be impacted. Districts must be prepared to remove any NOLOCK (and READUNCOMMITTED) query hints from your own custom SQL code with the Campus.2331 release scheduled for Wednesday, September 13. KDE will be prepared to update any KY State Reports and statewide processes. Refer to the Frequently Asked Questions document for answers to many questions.
- July 20 – KSIS Infinite Campus beginning-of-year training, KDE Media Portal