Summary of the July 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 July 18, 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/2023/07/edtech-july-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. David joined us while on the road for this month's webcast and we shared a few pre-recorded segments that were completed on today's agenda topics. 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.

(1:15) **School Year 2023-2024 KETS Operational Budget -** After introductions, we began the video David prepared of the KETS Operational Plan item going before the board on August 3. The summary is provided, but you may view the full video of this segment as part of the video at the link provided above. In addition to the documents shared during the video, we also provide the board our most current KETS Infographic and KETS Timeline.

KETS Operational Plan Staff Note: This is simply a template that provides the background of the item we are bringing to the board for approval. We do this to receive approval for disbursement of the annual $15.4M allotment. We have already received approval of the KETS need of $366M annually and this approval was received as part of the 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan. The KETS program has been underfunded for many years before Covid; we were far from meeting the $366M of basic unmet need. While there has been a very large influx of one-time federal funding, we will have a funding cliff when the Covid relief funds expire. We take every opportunity to speak to our budget needs and educate our board members on this ongoing need and ask that they make our additional budget request (ABR) a funding priority during the upcoming legislative session to better position us for the next ten years. The language in the staff note on our ABR is included below:

> The following must occur to appropriately fund education technology beginning in school year 2024-2025:
>
> 1. Increase the KETS annual allocation to $30M per year to (a) counteract the effects of inflation to KETS since 1992, (b) to restore the significant cuts (i.e., $5M+) of over the past 11 years to the basic KY K-12 edtech funding and (c) to address the rapid annual increase/replacement in the numbers (e.g., districts going to 1 to 1 computers), types of tech devices (e.g., HVAC using the Internet, phones over the Internet, school safety devices that use the Internet) and services (e.g., KY K-12 Internet bandwidth service) being used by over 750,000 KY K-12 students & adults for instructional, communication, physical safety, cybersafety and cybersecurity purposes. This also includes $1.5M to KETS to pay for KDE's portion of the KY K-12 School Information System (KSIS) used by all 171 KY K-12 school districts. When the legislature provided the funding to implement KSIS in 2006 they unfortunately did not provide the funding for the annual costs and we have been limping along since then using e-rate rebates to pay for that $1.5M that your never sure you'll get it or when you'll get it. It's like counting on your income tax returns each year to pay for your mortgage payment or monthly rent. So rather than KDE having use $1.5M from the e-rate rebates to pay for that annual KSIS costs, OET can instead send that $1.5M in e-rate rebates to districts and have a stable funding source in KETS to pay for that annual KSIS cost. It is very unrealistic to maintain basic high-quality technology enabled services for schools and districts without raising the KETS baseline to at least $30M per year.
>
> 2. Restore full funding of $800,000 for the Computer Science/Information Technology (CS/IT) Academy for school districts beginning in SY 2023-2024. The Computer Science/Information Technology (CS/IT) Academy is a joint venture of OET & CTE with the aim of supporting rigorous computer science teacher professional learning in addition to teacher and student course support in the demonstration of Computer Science standards and industry certification

exam vouchers in ALL computer science courses and pathways. The Kentucky K-12 Computer Science and IT Academy program prepares educators and students for industry-recognized certifications. By creating more opportunities for computer science learning for Kentucky students, we will reach, keep and engage more students in learning, create a pool of more qualified people to fill existing job openings and stimulate suppressed economic regions of our state by developing a high-tech skilled workforce. Computer science and coding utilize critical thinking and problem-solving talents that benefit all career paths.

3. Help properly address the people side of edtech in districts so there are the right number of technicians, digital learning coaches and other basic edtech leadership responsibilities in districts (data accuracy, cybersecurity/cybersafety/cyberprivacy, strategic planning, emerging technology) that help ensure school technology is kept reliable for students and teachers, is maximized in instruction, is cybersecure/cybersafe and is of high quality (e.g., data). Over the past 5 years there is an alarming trend of the invested EdTech services and devices are dramatically out-pacing that of district EdTech staff such as Digital Learning Coaches (TIS/TRT), Technicians, Education Technology Leadership, Cybersafety/Cybersecurity and Data Quality Personnel. These EdTech staffing positions: (a) keep EdTech systems/services running reliably, safe and secure, (b) build district capacity by showing teachers how to maximize the use of the digital tools in their instruction (c) drive EdTech instructional alignment and integration in a fiscally responsible and strategically sound manner ensuring usage, adoption, and impact of digital tools and applications invested in and (d) ensure data quality is at a high level of accuracy. These resources are critical in providing educators, school leaders, and administrators with appropriate professional learning, devices, content, and methods to use technology effectively in the classroom from administering computer-based assessments to blended learning strategies. Exacerbating this situation, is the expansion of tech responsibilities that the shrinking amount of district EdTech staff have (e.g., security cameras that use the Internet, voice systems that use the Internet, heating and air conditioning systems that use the Internet, etc.). To address the current depleted levels of core district EdTech staff $4.6 million of the requested additional funds will be sent to districts as a KETS Offer of Assistance that districts will match with local funds dollar for dollar.

4. CV-19 pandemic K-12 response efforts unveiled an even greater need for and resulted in the establishment of increased edtech services which were only made possible through temporary CV-19 federal relief funds. With the expiration of these temporary federal funds $9,437,200 in additional funding is needed to sustain the following core value added edtech services initiated/prompted by COVID response/recovery/ongoing preparedness increases:

$1.4M to address the current depleted levels of core district EdTech staff which will be sent to districts as a KETS offers of Assistance that districts will match with local funds dollar for dollar.

$2.05M to address the need of supporting the massive influx in the number and kinds of education technology, the expanding drive for quick feedback through online testing and restoring basic EdTech services for all KY K-12 schools that have been underfunded since 2006.

$650,000 to address the current level of district Internet utilization for instructional purposes which will then be sent back out to districts as a KETS OA utilizing the resulting Federal E-Rate refunds received for these K-12 Internet Connectivity services, OET and School Technology operations.

$4M to extend the following successful student and teacher front facing initiatives/projects: $2.5M for DLCs stipends match program, Digital Learning and Leading professional learning, Online Virtual Remote Collaborative, STLP standards alignment, Kentucky Virtual Library (KyVL) membership extension, CS/IT Academy Growth and 1.5M to operationalize the Customer User Experience System (CUES).

$523,000 for Statewide Campus Learning

$814,200 for Statewide Online Registration Prime

5. An additional $50 Million request increase to the KETS Baseline - which when issued through participation in the Offer of Assistance program is equally matched for a total of $100M - targets two key areas of sustained need: student instructional devices & technology staffing:

a) Currently today, Kentucky K-12 (all school districts) have purchased and deployed over 632,000 Chromebooks primarily for student access. These devices need to be refreshed (replaced) at least every 4 years and as opposed to replacing all at the same time, the best practice approach has been to address a percentage of the total amount based upon the expected lifecycle of the device. In other words, if the expected lifecycle of the device is 4 years, then 1/4 of the total should be refreshed each year in rotating order in order to maintain modern devices in the hands of our students. Additionally, our research with school districts has determined that the average cost of a Chromebook is $316.50. Therefore, the formula used to calculate the ABR for instructional device replacement is as follows:
• 632,000 existing Chromebooks x $316.50 per device (new) = $200M
• Replacement of 1/4 of devices on an annual basis = $50M
• Annual state (KETS) contribution (Offer of Assistance need) = $25M

b) The most important resource in our statewide technology program are the people behind the scenes who keep the technology running, secure, (technical staff), and those working with and coaching teachers and administrators on the

strategies to maximize the full instructional benefit of this investment (Digital Learning Coaches). Kentucky K-12 Education Technology is significantly understaffed and outmanned when we compare the amount of technology deployed to the total number of staff employed at both the local district and state level. Industry standard ratios outlining the # of support personnel required compared to the amount of technology currently deployed has K-12 in Kentucky at only 40% capacity. In other words, through a very conservative lens, we only have 41% (1,299 of 3,147) of the full-time staff needed to adequately maintain and maximize the technology spend. Current trends for Kentucky K-12 outlines only an 11% increase in spend on technology staffing between FY19 ($51.8M) and FY22 ($58.4M), but at the same time we're observing a 108% increase in the spend on student computers between FY19 ($39.2M) and FY21 ($81.8M). Therefore, the recommendation for part two of this ABR is to add 1000 new positions (technical support and digital learning coaches), or convert 1000 of the current part-time positions to full-time. At an average recommended salary of $50K per staff member, the annual total is $50M (state and local combined), with the annual state (KETS) contribution (Offer of Assistance Need) of $25M.

KETS Operational Plan: This document is prepared and provided to the board to show a breakout of the $15.4M funds (shown below) and all the various funding sources that districts may use to help meet their educational technology need. We'd love to see a restoration to the $19M, but would also like to see an increase to $30M for our base funding to help us maintain and sustain our current services. We walked through the additional funding sources as outlined in the KETS Operational Plan. This coming year we are showing a total of **$491.6M** being available to go toward education technology need.

<div align="center">

Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS)
2023-2024 Operational Plan

</div>

The State Shared Discounted Services categories and the estimated expenditure amounts associated with each in the 2023-2024 KETS Operational Plan are:

Instructional/Administrative Software Maintenance Licenses that are for or go directly to School Districts	$1.9M
Financial Management System (MUNIS), Virus Protection, Student/Teacher Technology Usage Analytics, Microsoft Network Licensing	
Instructional/Administrative Systems Operations and Maintenance Services that Students, Teachers and Staff Depend on Daily	$6.7M
Help Desk Service (Levels 1-3, KDE and Vendor Partners), Customer Relationship and Resource Management (e.g., KETS Field Staff), Student Technology Leadership, Digital Learning Coach Services	
Administrative Systems Operations and Maintenance that are regularly used by Teachers, Staff or School District Leadership	$2.4M
School Report Card, Kentucky Educator Placement Service, District Digital Readiness Survey, Student Voice, Open House	
KETS Leadership, Planning, Management, Research and Evaluation	$1.8M
KETS Engineering, KETS Vendor Management, KETS Planning, KETS Product Testing and Evaluation, KETS Project Management	

SY 2023-2024 Funds for KETS State Shared Discounted Services (subtotal of above lines)	$12.8M
SY 2023-2024 Funds for Offers of Assistance for all districts projected as	$2.6M

Grand Total SY 2023-2024 KETS Trust Fund Allocation from the Legislature	**$15.4M**

(18:27) 2024-2030 KETS Master Plan for Education Technology - We viewed the prepared video on the 2024-2030 KETS Master Plan. This item will also be going to the KY Board of Education (KBE) on August 3. A summary is provided, but you may view the full video of this segment as part of the video for this webcast. We'll be able to share this after approval at the board meeting, but it still has to go through several steps before becoming effective. This timeframe is dependent upon several factors, but it will be March 2024 at the earliest.

This is the sixth master plan prepared and presented to the board for approval since 1992. This is a document incorporated by reference to a regulation, 701 KAR 5:110; therefore, it has the force of law behind it. This plan is a modernization of our 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan. Our current plan was very good, so like a good lesson plan, we didn't start over--but rather built upon and modernized the previous plan. Along with that we wanted to emphasize the things that we are doing well and want to keep on doing well knowing that we always want to strive to be better.

We walked through the plan and encourage you to listen to/view the full video; there was particular emphasis on the following areas:
- Areas of Emphasis – These are lined up with the Future Ready Framework; this underwent some substantial changes with the addition of an eighth gear and updating of the Growth Opportunities from the format Area of Improvement (the "AI" acronym was going to be confusing with the current spotlight on AI – Artificial Intelligence)
- 5 Essentials of High-Quality Data chart – This is not new, but it is now included in our plan.
- Appendix F – Cybersecurity Statement was added; it continues to be embedded and included throughout this plan.
- Projected Costs for Kentucky K-12 Technology Needs (Budget) – This has undergone a comprehensive review with several changes made after review of the empirical data, shared services, etc.

(38:39) KY K-12 Data Systems Update –

Data	2022-2023 School Report Card – Plan now; visit the KSIS School Report Card Resources webpage for the timeline, resource materials, and communications. The timeline for the new card is below. - July 17-31 – School Safety review/approval - July 17-Sept. 29 – Collection tool open for school-level data collection - Aug. 3-Sept. 29 – Non-accountability data review/approval - Oct. – Assessment and graduation data review - Late fall – public release - Spring 2024 – 2022-2023 Financial Transparency public release - The 2021-2022 CRDC registration, conducted directly in the submission system, closed on June 30 with all but six districts completing their registration. For more information go to the CRDC Resource Center. - Visit the KDE Open House Supplemental Data webpage for easier and quicker access to supplemental datasets. New groups of datasets are being grouped and relocated to the new site each week. This is a good time to login and verify/update your points of contact.

KSIS	• Visit the KSIS Data Standards webpage for updated 2023-2024 data standards and other procedural documents for Infinite Campus. Make sure staff are aware of and use the current standards to ensure data is consistently entered.

2. The KSIS Data Standards have been updated for the 2023-2024 school year. Who in your district is responsible for ensuring data entry staff are aware of and using the current KSIS Data Standards?

29 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
I am	3	10%	
District Campus Administrator	20	69%	
District Training Staff	1	3%	
I do not know but I will help encourage awareness and use of the data standards in staff training	5	17%	

• SFTP Deliver Mode Change – Campus added an updated SFTP Delivery Mode to the Data Extract utility, FRAM Scheduled Import/Extract, and Data Import Wizard tools. This update ensures modern key exchange algorithms are supported. The old SFTP Delivery Mode still exists in the tool but has been renamed to SFTP Legacy (being deprecated). Existing configurations using this old delivery mode will continue to work until it is deprecated but users should transition over to the new SFTP Delivery Mode option.

4. Does your district have data exchange processes impacted by the change in Infinite Campus SFTP delivery mode?
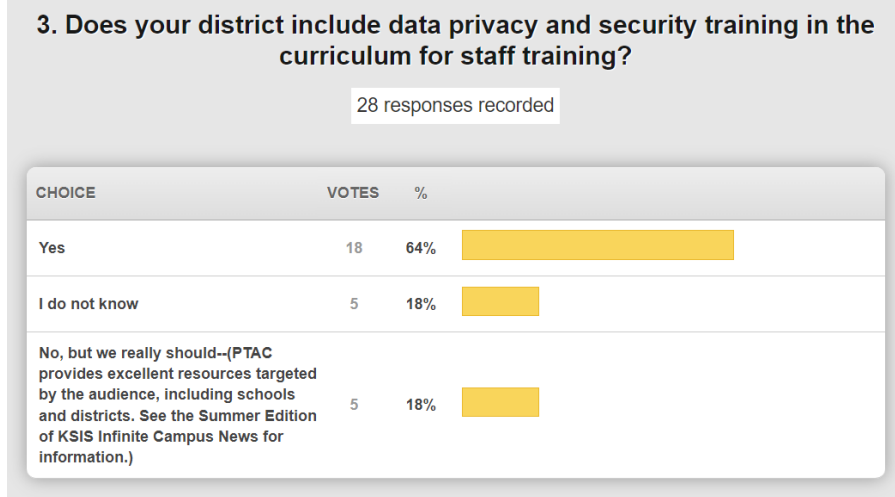
26 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%	
Yes, we are working to update to new delivery mode	9	35%	
Yes, but we need more information	5	19%	
Not sure, need to check further	11	42%	
No	1	4%	

• Next release is in September; the NO LOCK and query hints will be impacted with this release.

Other	• July 20 – KSIS Infinite Campus (Kentucky-Specific) beginning-of-year training, KDE Media Portal. For details and registration, go to the KSIS Training webpage. These are very schedule specific and they are also recorded if someone needs to go back and reference.
	• Parchment eTranscript
	    o Transcripts - Please ensure that the 2023 graduates are aware they can order their electronic transcripts through Parchment at no cost through Aug. 30. After that date, there will be a $4 fee associated with transcripts.
	    o Online training for new staff who will process transcripts will be offered at 2 p.m. ET July 19, and again at 1 p.m. ET, July 26. Visit the Parchment website to register
	    o For refresher courses available on demand, check out the Quick Bytes and Parchment Learn series.
	• The Student Privacy Policy Office (SPPO), through its Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC), will host a three-day virtual webinar series on student privacy and data security in August. Register for each day of the series below. All sessions are from 2-4 p.m. (ET)/1-3 p.m. (CT).
	    o Aug. 16 – FERPA 101 and FERPA 201, covers the basics of FERPA, including scenarios faced by schools and districts.
	    o Aug. 23 – Data Security and Data Breach Incident Response provides training on current data security best practices for education data systems and leads participants through a simulated data breach.
	    o Aug. 30 – Vetting Educational Technology and Transparency explores the importance of and how online educational technology can be assessed for privacy protections and general FERPA compliance, followed by highlights from PTAC's research on study transparency.
	
	3. Does your district include data privacy and security training in the curriculum for staff training?
	
	28 responses recorded
	
	| CHOICE
		VOTES	%	

---	---	---	---
Yes	18	64%	
I do not know	5	18%	
No, but we really should--(PTAC provides excellent resources targeted by the audience, including schools and districts. See the Summer Edition of KSIS Infinite Campus News for information.)	5	18%		 North Carolina, Delaware and Nevada have followed us in the statewide implementation of services; this helps Kentucky by allowing us to work with these other states to drive down costs and improve the service as a whole.

(48:49) Data Collections Update – A huge percentage of what was covered in today's webcast uses data submitted by our CIOs through these annual data collections – Annual Feedback, Technology Activity Report (TAR) and the Digital Readiness Survey. While this was primarily for our new CIOs, it serves as a good reminder to all about the differing collections and how these data are utilized. The window for both the Digital Readiness Survey and the TAR collection have opened; your field staff are ready to assist you. There have been a few tweaks to the items collected in the areas of digital equity and cybersafety and security in the Digital Readiness Survey.

1. The Digital Readiness Survey is now open for collection. Is it helpful for you to start your submission early or will you target a submission closer to September?

34 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%
I will be ready to submit early this year	9	26%
I will probably wait until September	19	56%
I am not sure just yet	6	18%

(50:52) KETS RFPS & Contracts Updates -
- <u>Connected User Experience (CUES)</u> – This RFP should be posting soon; this will be a huge initiative for us.
- <u>School Report Card (SRC)</u> – It is moving through the procurement process; it is closed and evaluation is ongoing.
- <u>Professional Learning Management System</u> – We are working with OCIS on this effort and we'll be able to provide more details on this soon.
- <u>SEEK</u> – This RFP resulted in no award of a contract and there were multiple contributing factors. This next generation SEEK system is beginning a second round.
- <u>NGKI</u> – We are still on track for July 1, 2024, and we have contingency plans in place if we don't meet that deadline.

(54:47) Other Items to Note:
- KETS Offers of Assistance – We are estimating $21/ADA for the upcoming fiscal year.
- KETS Vendor Partner Meeting – This annual meeting was held on July 12th in Frankfort at our Sower Boulevard building.
- GoSoapBox Question #5 -

5. Are you ready to submit your district Cybersecurity Health Check report to your local board? The end of August will be here before you know it!

31 responses recorded

CHOICE	VOTES	%
Yes, we are done!	8	26%
Working on it but not ready to submit just yet	20	65%
No	2	6%
First I have heard of this! Sounds like I need to on it!	1	3%

If you need assistance, reach out to your KETS Engineer or contact Bob Hackworth; it's a great opportunity to interface with your board. This can be and probably should be shared in a closed meeting.