

## Summary of the November 2024 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 19, 2024, EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at: <https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/2024/11/edtech-november-2024/>.

Public viewing of the archived webcasts and written summaries are also available on the KDE Media Portal at: <https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/district-technology-leadership-webcast/>. 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 joint 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. A few poll questions were posed throughout the meeting and district EdTech leaders were asked to respond 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.

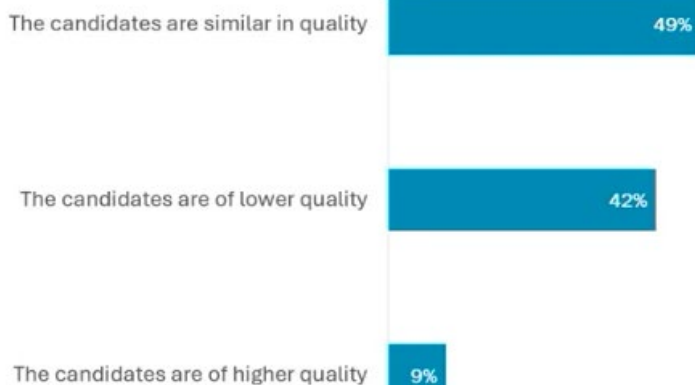
**(1:19) EdTech's Role in Helping with the KY K-12 Teacher Shortage:** Everyone plays a role in this, much like the chronic absenteeism issue we discussed last month. David discussed the role of EdTech in addressing the teacher shortage, highlighting the importance of accurate data tracking and the potential of technology to help mitigate the issue. He shared his screen highlighting parts of the recent presentation given by Commissioner Fletcher to the Interim Joint Committee on Education and then to Superintendents that puts emphasis on the need for accurate data on teacher vacancies.

There are two parts to this— (1) the system that is tracking the vacancies and (2) what can edtech do beyond the system to assist with this issue. This was a topic during our 2024 KySTE CIO Summit. An important role is giving folks a feel about how large an issue it is or is not.

The quality of the data is paramount. The number of teacher vacancies in the Kentucky Educator Placement System (KEPS) was over 3000. However, when a separate teacher vacancy survey was collected from all 171 districts, it identified approximately 1500 vacancies. This is a 50% discrepancy between KEPS and the survey. This is a great example of the five qualities of data where we discuss what it takes to have high-quality data.

David scrolled through the presentation with emphasis on the following slides:

## District leaders feel the quality of applicants for the 2024-2025 are of similar or lower quality than those in previous years.



This slide is a survey question on the quality of applicants pre- and then post-pandemic. David discussed the use of virtual options as a mitigation strategy for teacher shortages, allowing districts to offer courses online when in-person teachers are unavailable. David discussed what other states are doing and shared the following slide with the recommended actions:

## Recommended Actions

- Fund a statewide job posting system and require districts to update postings when positions are filled.
- Annual survey to districts regarding vacancy data.

As with other systems, keeping the information up to date is an issue and districts lag in removing filled vacancy positions in KEPS. David pointed out that KEPS has issues with accuracy, often due to lack of timely updates by districts when a vacancy is filled and there is no law that requires a district to quickly remove a filled vacant position in KEPS. The upcoming legislative session in Jan-April 2025 is not a funding session, but in the next funding session in Jan-April 2026, there may be a funding request to put a new system in place to replace KEPS.

- David highlighted the importance of accurate and timely data entry at the district level to ensure the reliability of the data system.
- David suggested that a law should be enacted to require districts to keep their data up to date, ensuring consistent and accurate reporting. This is a people-side issue. It is a total was of money to buy a new system to replace KEPS without this kind of law. Otherwise, the new system will continue to be 50% inaccurate regarding the number of teacher vacancies.
- David discussed how technology can aid in providing accurate information and tracking teacher vacancies more effectively.

We do hope that the implementation of CUES ultimately helps with the onboarding and on-going technology experience and assists in attracting and retaining high-quality staff/teaching candidates.

**(27:47) SY 2024-2025 Digital Readiness Survey and Technology Activity Report Presentation:**

There are four key pieces that work together and help us formulate our gameplan—



The public digital readiness application went live on November 18<sup>th</sup> and there was a huge shoutout to those who made that happen. It may be accessed here: [https://applications.education.ky.gov/TRS\\_Reports/](https://applications.education.ky.gov/TRS_Reports/). The middle selection is the KETS Infographic and this is our digital readiness story.

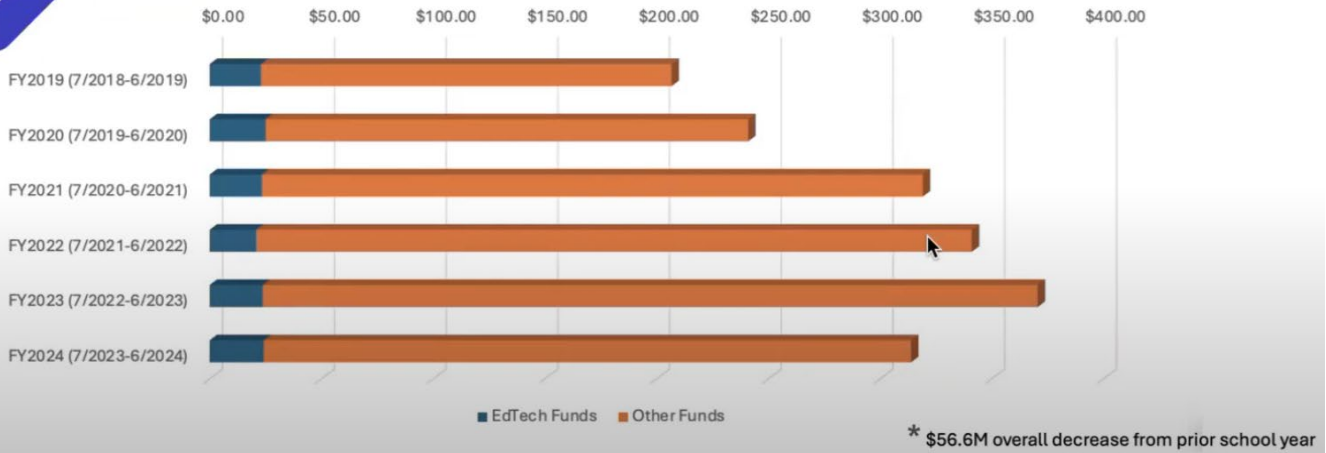
This block contains three interactive panels, each with a distinct header and icon. The "Snapshot" panel (green header) features a camera and tablet icon and a "View" button. The "Reports" panel (blue header) features a stack of books icon and a "Download" button. The "Trends" panel (orange header) features a line graph icon and a "Compare" button. Each panel includes a brief description of the data it provides.

Marty Park presented the results of the annual digital readiness survey and technology activity report, highlighting key trends and data points. He discussed the importance of these reports in understanding technology adoption and usage across the state. Marty emphasized the importance of these reports in helping districts understand their technology landscape and make informed decisions about future technology investments.

- Technology Activity Report: He discussed the technology activity report, which tracks how districts are spending on technology and the trends in technology usage.



EdTech vs Other Funding Source Comparison  
(in Millions)



- Key Trends: Key trends identified include the increase in student-to-device ratios, the growth in Chromebook usage, and the decrease in surplus devices, indicating longer usage of older devices. For the first time we compared basic end-user workstations to advanced end-user workstations. We saw two areas of decrease – software, apps & digital content and classroom Instructional devices. 23 districts do not have a 1:1 or BYOD initiative; this is a larger number than in the past. Even with the Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP) going away, connectivity beyond campus and at home has improved. We are up to 931,429 devices that can leverage online testing!

Devices: Staff & Students

2023-2024

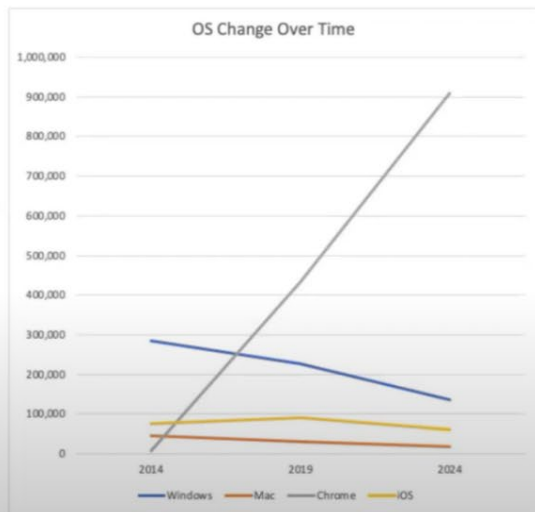
Chrome - 881,232 (79.9%)  
 Windows - 141,770 (12.8%)  
 Mac - 16,487 (1.5%)  
 OS - 60,610 (5.5%)  
 Android - 3,251 (.3%)

2024-2025

🔥 Chrome - 909,197 (80.7%) 3.2% YOY growth  
 Windows - 136,562 (12.1%)  
 Mac - 17,502 (1.6%)  
 iOS - 60,537 (5.4%)  
 Android - 2,996 (.3%)  
**Total = 1,126,838** 2.1% YOY growth



# Devices: Staff & Students



Here's a simplified breakdown of the percentage changes from 2014 to 2024:

- **Windows:** -39.6% (decrease)
- **Mac:** -42.6% (decrease)
- **Chrome:** 4869.1% (increase)
- **iOS:** -33.8% (decrease)

**Devices**

Total Student Devices: 976,132

STAFF Devices: 150,706

**1,126,838**

Total Devices

Purchased: 147,826

Surplused: 134,103

Device +/-: 13,723

Assessment: 931,429

82.7% Basic EU Wrkst

85.1% Adv EU Wrkst

14.8%

Next Gen Devices: 1,003,322 (89.0%)



# The People Side...



22 people down from last year...

Region
District
FT DLCs: 127
FT Techs: 646
Data Quality: 104
FT STCs: 151
Total FT People: 1,202

**CIO**

District	Days
Kentucky School for the Deaf	365
Daviess County	261
Jessamine County	261

Report directly to Superintendent?

Yes: 142

No: 12

CIO Focuses on Day-to-Day Operations: 29

CIO Focuses on critical services: 44

CIO Focuses on District level decision making & understanding value of EdTech: 99

**Digital Teaching & Learning Support**

Full-Time DLCs: 127 in 65 districts

Part-Time DLCs: 243 in 56 districts

Stipend DLCs: 283 in 57 districts

**School Media Librarians**

1,016.3

902 are full-time in 1 school

Districts with NO SML: 0

**Technical Support**

Full-time Techs: 646

Part-time Techs: 111

FT-Outsourced Techs: 11

PT-Outsourced Techs: 6

**Technicians**

21 full time Tech positions without

Southgate Independent

Science Hill Independe...

Robertson County

**School Technology Coordinators**

Full Time STCs: 151

Part-Time STCs: 674

Districts Paying A Stipend: 57

Avg. Stipend Paid: \$1,411

Student Help Desk: 109

**Data Quality & Data Stewardship**

Identified Data Stewards: 90

Yes, the Ed Tech Leader/CIO: 44

Yes, a position other than the Ed Tech Leader/CIO: 11

Does the school/district have someone in charge of Data Quality?: 65

**STLP**

STLP Coaches: 822

District STLP Coaches: 68

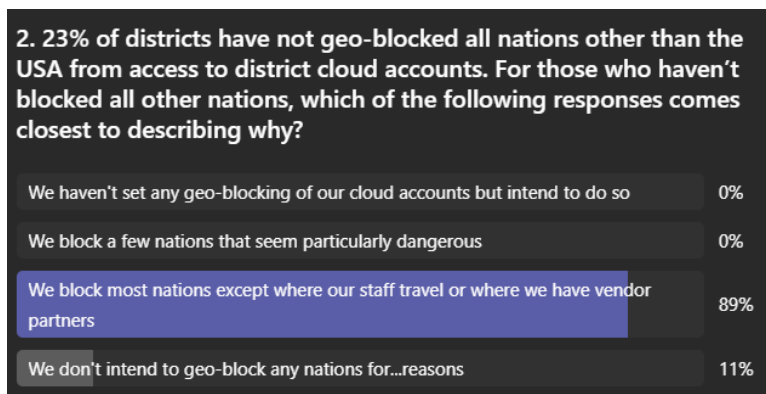
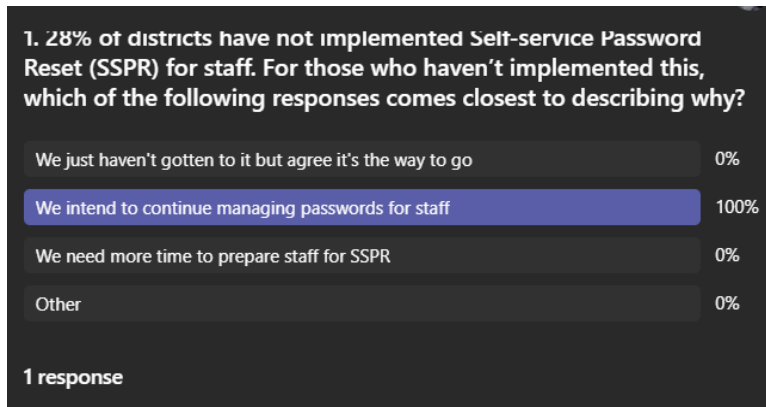
District	STLP Coaches	District STLP Coach
Jefferson County	104	Yes
Fayette County	69	Yes
Daviess County	32	Yes

Kentucky Department of EDUCATION

This slide shows there has been an increase over the last three years, but this year we are down by 22 positions; of course, this fluctuates continuously with hirings and separations. There is an increase in the overall spend on the people side from 17% to 20%; this is due to increased salaries and additional positions.

**(50:55) Cybersecurity Measures:** David Couch and Bob Hackworth discussed the importance of cybersecurity measures, including the implementation of multifactor authentication (MFA) and the use of external network vulnerability testing services. They emphasized the need for districts to adopt these measures to protect against cyber threats. Also, data in the digital readiness data can assist you in preparation of your required annual healthcheck report to your local board of education.

- **MFA Implementation:** David and Bob discussed the importance of implementing multifactor authentication (MFA) to enhance security and protect against unauthorized access.
- **Vulnerability Testing:** They highlighted the use of an external network vulnerability testing service, provided free by CISA, to identify and address potential security weaknesses. We are going to push to encourage all districts to enable/implement this service.
- **Adoption Challenges:** David and Bob addressed the challenges some districts face in adopting these cybersecurity measures, including concerns about the effectiveness and implementation process.
- **Security Importance:** They emphasized the critical importance of adopting these cybersecurity measures to protect against cyber threats and ensure the safety of district networks.



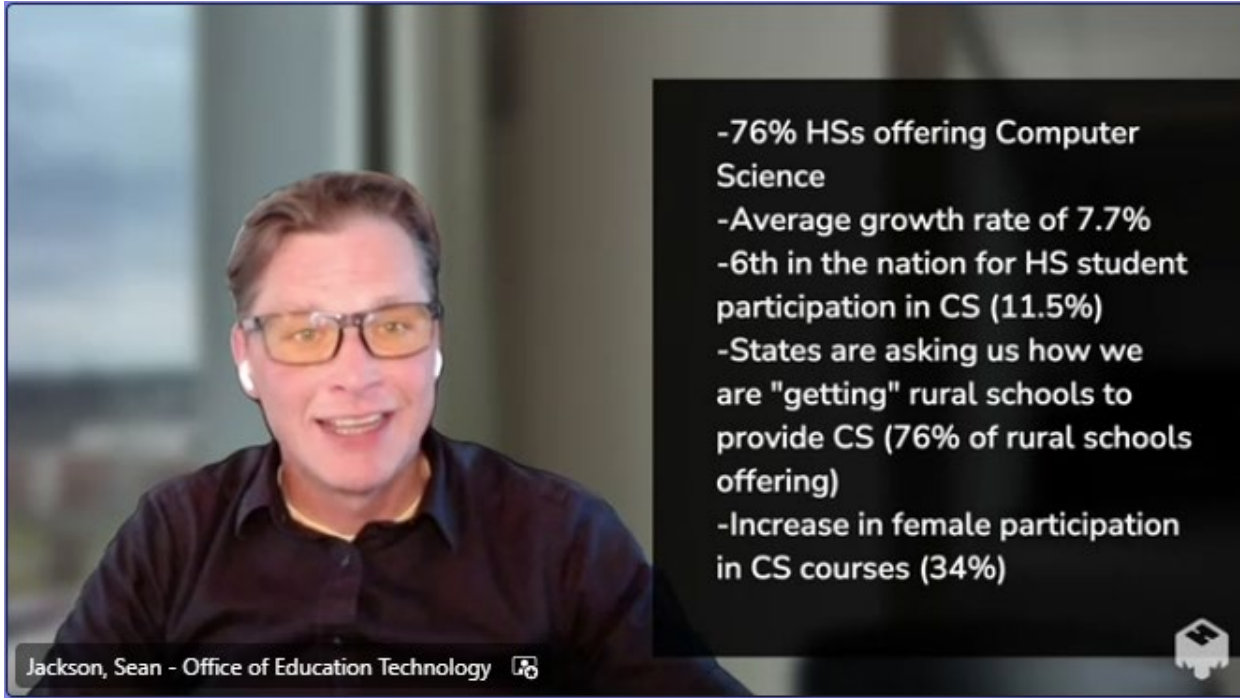
While this won't make you 100% secure, it does remove a LOT of what you have to worry about. We recommend blocking everything and then creating exceptions for specific windows of time.

David and Marty recognized the staff and excellent work done by all to create these reports and make them available in digital and visual formats. Bob commented that all these stories work together to help district leaders.

**(1:06:22) ENA by Zayo's Kentik Tool:** This is a tool available for all districts and KDE organizations that allows better visibility into what is and what is not happening on their Internet service--[Kentik - Network Analysis Tool](#). Matt Jury introduced the Kentik service, which provides districts with a dashboard to monitor Internet usage data and network performance. He explained the rollout process and the support available for districts to utilize this service effectively. If something is not working or configured correctly, reach out to ENA. Next, there will be a third level of visibility with access to firewall data and we hope to pilot this right after the Thanksgiving holiday and implement it statewide by the end of the year.

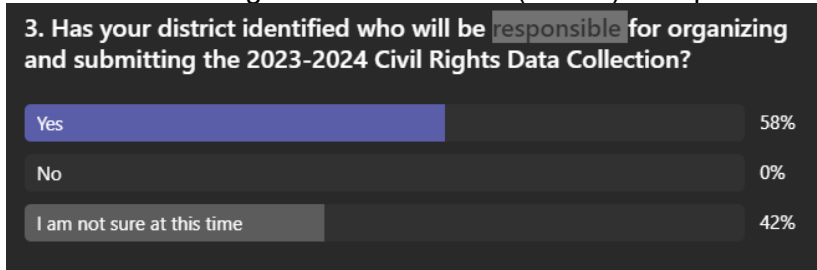
**(1:10:17) Code.org's KY K-12 Computer Science Report:** Sean presented the computer science report, highlighting the growth in high school students participating in computer science courses and the increase in female participation. He emphasized the importance of attracting students to computer science and the role of digital readiness surveys in tracking progress. The full report was attached to

today's meeting agenda and Sean Jackson hit some high points. By December 1, 2024, we will have prepared and submitted Kentucky's report on Computer Science.



**(1:16:25) KY K-12 Data Systems Update:** Dede provided an update on the school report card and civil rights data collection, emphasizing the importance of accurate data entry and verification. She reminded districts to complete their approvals and highlighted the resources available for data collection.

- KY K-12 School Report Card Suite – undergoing data review before sunset deadline
- Infinite Campus Winterchange Conference is Dec 5-6
- 2023-2024 Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) will open Dec. 9 and close March 7



- Infinite Campus Insights/ Chronic Absentee Training went well over 260 registered for training and there was good attendance. This training was recorded and available for those who could not attend.
- Kentucky Educator Credentialing System (KECS)- Deadline for Fall LEAD review period ended on Nov 15

5. Please tell us what topics or issues you would like to see included in the KSIS Infinite Campus mid-year training.

**CUEs attributes**

**Data Standards   List of Updates**

**(1:20:10) Other Items to Note:**

- Annual Top 5 feedback is due by December 16 from all 171 districts and all OET staff.
- Draft of OET's portion of the KDE website--[Education Technology - Kentucky Department of Education](#). David previewed the changes being made to the OET portion of the KDE website and asked for feedback on content and priority order from both our district viewers and OET staff.
- STLP Update – November 20 is the Level 1 Regionals event with about 1000 projects ready to roll!! This is 400 schools from 103 districts. We have 428 volunteers lined up to help make this successful. This will be virtual from 10 – noon so it's an impressive technical feat. He thanked the volunteers and judges for their support and emphasized the importance of the event in showcasing student projects. Reminder that the STLP State Championship is April 23, 2025.
- Kentucky Society of Technology in Education (KySTE) Reflection - This was a wonderful event. See the PowerPoint that was sent with the meeting agenda.
- Update on AI in KY K-12 - See the AI presentation given to the KY legislature in October by the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB). This presentation was also included in the meeting agenda for today's webcast. David will be attending a meeting later this week as part of a working group that will be finalizing these recommendations.
- Status of KY K-12 EdTech contracts, RFPs and implementations - All continue to move forward and the Professional Learning Management System is kicking off this week.
- KDE's Strategic Plan - Reminder that you may not see yourself and/your work specifically called out in the Strategic Plan, but much of our work is behind the scenes, daily work that allows things to be successful.
- KDE's customer satisfaction survey is in a link in the footer at the bottom of our e-mails going beyond KDE the agency until the end of January.
- A recent article about EdTech's role in helping with chronic absenteeism was published in KY Teacher: [Education technology resources and tools are helping combat chronic absenteeism within schools – Kentucky Teacher](#).
- A recent article about KDE's recent successful implementation of our KY K-12 Internet service was in the Kentucky School Board Associations monthly publication: [KSBA News Article](#).