

## Summary of the January 2025 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 January 21, 2025, EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at: <https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/2025/01/edtech-january-2025/>.

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. 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.

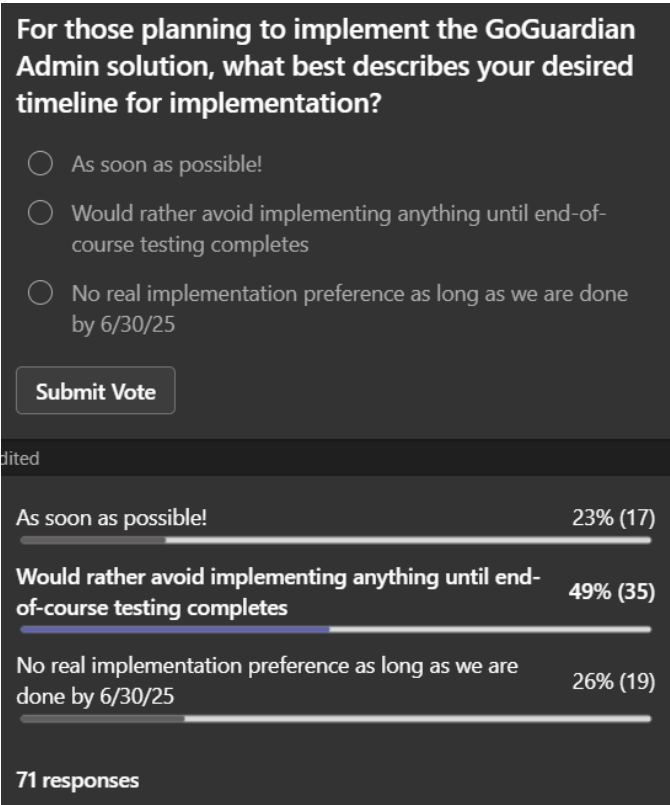
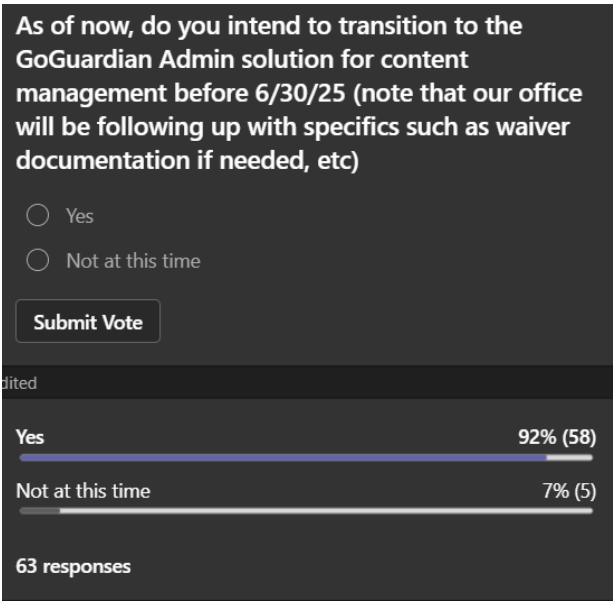
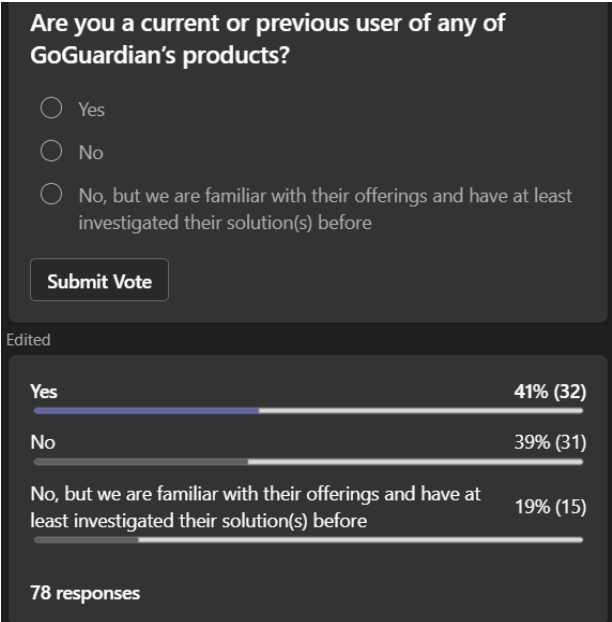
### **(2:30) KY K-12 Internet Content Management System in KY K-12 Districts & KDE Organizations:**

**Internet Content Management System Implementation:** David Couch discussed the implementation of the Internet content management system, emphasizing the importance of the July 2025 deadline. He provided historical context, mentioning the 1998 law and the evolution of content management systems and associated applications/platforms. This 1998 bill and associated regulation have stood the test of time and remain relevant today.

- **Implementation Deadline:** David Couch emphasized the importance of implementing the Internet content management system by July 2025, highlighting the urgency and necessity of meeting this deadline.
- **Historical Context:** David Couch mentioned the 1998 law (SB230) that required Internet content management and the evolution of these systems from 1995 to the present. Acceptable use/Responsible use policies are the fundamental principles behind this discussion.
- **System Requirements:** David Couch explained the requirements for the new system, including the ability to filter, block, track, and inspect Internet usage, and the importance of adhering to existing laws and regulations.
- **District Responsibilities:** David Couch clarified that districts have the responsibility to decide what content to block or allow, and that the state agency does not block any content directly.
- **Transition to GoGuardian:** David Couch mentioned the transition from Lightspeed to GoGuardian as the new Internet content management system, with the state covering the cost for the GoGuardian Admin product statewide. By law, we must provide this service at no cost to the district; however, this is one product standard where a district may request a waiver and use an alternate product that is purchased using their 100% district funds.

**(13:02) GoGuardian Introduction:** David Couch introduced the internal, OET GoGuardian team who will play a significant role in the implementation of the Internet content management system. The team includes Jody Rose as the product manager and Jennifer Devine as the project manager. Jody provided some background and details on the contract award and asked for everyone's patience. Once it gets going, this will move quickly. After the next few weeks, we will have a much better plan and idea of how to proceed while ensuring a successful implementation. This is considered a white-glove service. We discussed the poll questions included below and talked about the feedback form that all districts will be asked to complete very soon. There were multiple questions fielded via the chat and this will serve as a basis for developing a feedback process. David Couch clarified the roles of the

GoGuardian team members, emphasizing their responsibilities in ensuring the successful implementation of the new system as well as the partnership with GoGuardian and the collaborative efforts required to meet the implementation goals.



**(26:45) GoGuardian:** John Buchanan began the GoGuardian presentation and expressed how excited they are to be the chosen vendor. Below is the team GoGuardian has assembled to work with us on this transition/implementation:



**John Buchanan**  
Chief Growth Officer  
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**Nieshe Washington**  
Customer Success Manager  
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**Steven Hardwood**  
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**Brian Larkin**  
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**Amon Henady**  
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**Nate Paul**  
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**Jacklyn Grummel**  
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**Matthew Ortiz**  
Manager, New Business  
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### GoGuardian Admin Product Overview:

John Buchanan provided a quick overview of the company and then Brian Larkin focused on the GoGuardian Admin product. He emphasized the product's ease of use, reliability, and superior support. A few of the slides from the presentation have been included below:

## Our Commitment to our Customers

#### COMMITMENT #1

##### Efficacy

Delivering the intended impact for students and educators isn't just our goal, it's at the heart of all of our products.

#### COMMITMENT #2

##### Privacy

Our work is built on trust — the privacy of each and every user is embedded in the way we design, improve, and deploy our tools.

#### COMMITMENT #3

##### Equity

We work hard to consider the unique needs and experiences of every student and educator, supporting users across intersectional dimensions of difference.

#### COMMITMENT #4

**Customer Success:** We're committed to understanding your needs, prioritizing what it will take to ensure your success, and being a great partner to you to.

# Industry Leaders in Student Privacy and Responsible AI



Our solutions all **fully comply** with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Children's Online Privacy and Protection Rule (COPPA), and all applicable state student data privacy laws.



We have a dedicated **Privacy and Trust Team** that works proactively across all divisions of the company, continually advancing our solutions' privacy and trust profiles.



We are recognized for our commitment to building **Responsible AI** solutions for classrooms and schools that are rooted in industry principles for education safe artificial intelligence.



Our GoGuardian suite is certified by **iKeepSafe** and **1Edtech** as compliant with student privacy regulations. Pear Deck Learning is currently in the process of earning these certifications for 2025.

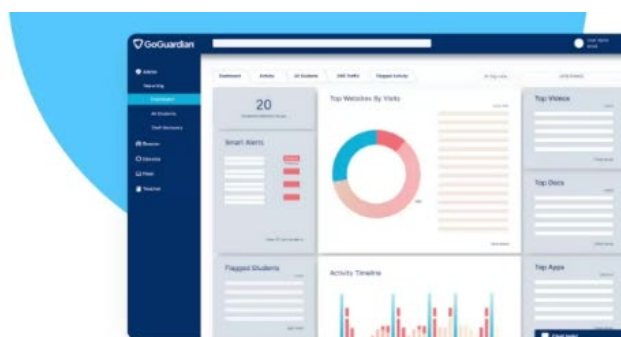


EDUCATION TECHNOLOGY  
INDUSTRY'S PRINCIPLES FOR THE  
FUTURE OF AI IN EDUCATION

- **Product Features:** Brian Larkin highlighted key features of the GoGuardian admin product, including dynamic content detection, YouTube controls, and the parent app for parental control over Internet access at home.

## GoGuardian Admin™

The most preferred K-12 web filtering solution.



**117k+**

educators use GoGuardian Admin to establish secure learning environments and protect students online.

**12.7M+**

students protected online.

**91%**

of educators favor GoGuardian Admin for keeping their students and community safe\*.

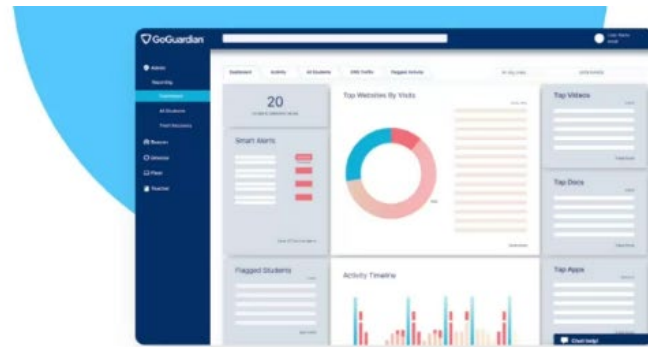
- **Ease of Use:** Brian Larkin emphasized the product's ease of use, with a user-friendly interface and intuitive workflow designed to help administrators manage Internet content effectively.



# GoGuardian Admin™

## Scale security, not complexity

Manage filtering policies across all users, regardless of device type, operating system, or browser—from one interface.



Block unwanted distractions automatically



Unlock the power of educational sites like YouTube



Protect students from harmful content



Share a student's activity with an integrated parent app



Gain actionable insights across your district and schools

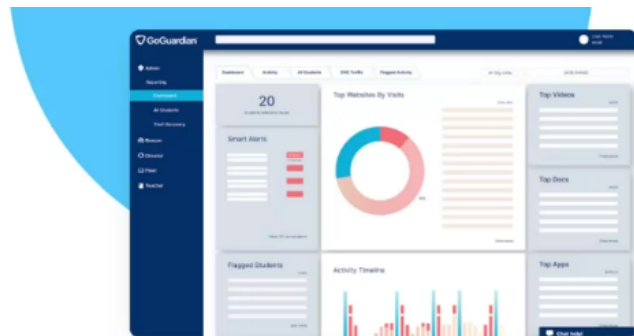


Create personalized learning environments with flexible filtering at the individual student or group levels.

GoGuardian · Pear Deck Learning

\*2024 Hanover market research survey.

- **Reliability:** Brian Larkin assured participants of the product's reliability, with high uptimes and consistent performance to ensure continuous protection for students.



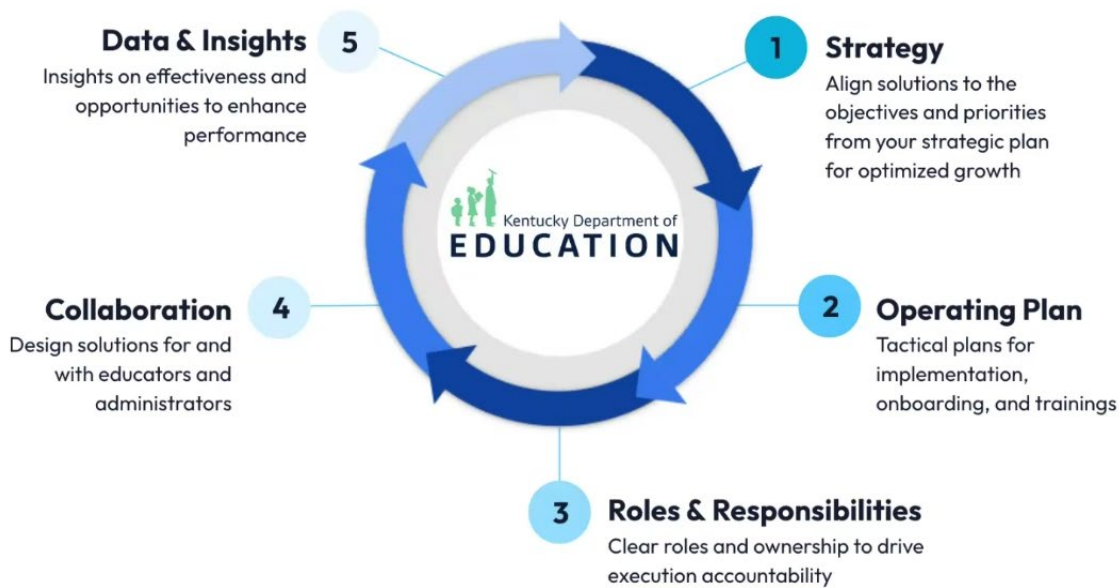
# GoGuardian Admin™

## Why Administrators choose GoGuardian Admin:

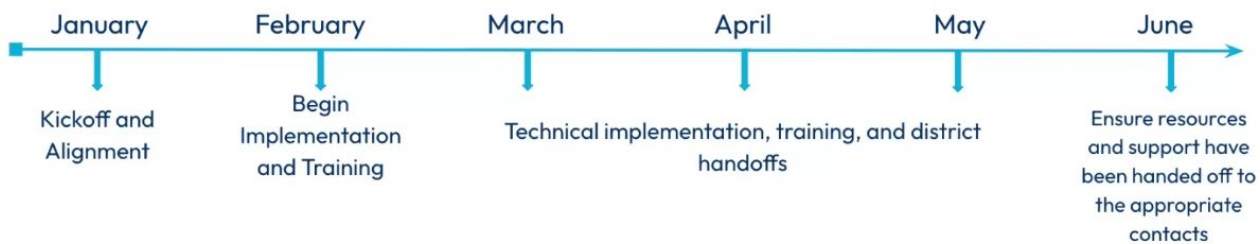
- **Comprehensive monitoring in a single, intuitive dashboard:** GoGuardian Admin offers a robust and flexible solution that surfaces full visibility and timely alerts to empower administrators to take action.
  - **Ease of implementation:** GoGuardian Admin provides an efficient implementation experience to quickly secure the learning environment.
  - **Reliable student safety solution:** GoGuardian Admin delivers unmatched reliability and uptime.
  - **Superior support:** GoGuardian Admin consistently delivers unparalleled support and expert guidance.
- **Superior Support:** Brian Larkin highlighted the superior support provided by GoGuardian, with a dedicated support team available to assist users and ensure smooth operation of the product.

**(40:37) Implementation and Training Plan:** Nieshe Washington outlined the implementation and training plan, which includes gathering information from districts, scheduling implementation calls, and providing professional services and customer education. The goal is to ensure a smooth transition and long-term success.

# What we bring to the partnership



- **Information Gathering:** Nieshe explained that the first step in the implementation plan is to gather information from districts about their device landscape and other relevant details to tailor the implementation process. She shared the following timeline:



## Ongoing Tasks:

- Collecting feedback and adjusting our process as needed
- Technical check ins

## Conferences Attending:

- Kentucky Society for Technology in Education (KySTE)
- Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP) Championship

- **Implementation Calls:** Nieshe mentioned that implementation calls will be scheduled with districts to discuss specific needs and ensure a smooth deployment of the GoGuardian admin product.
- **Professional Services:** Nieshe highlighted the availability of professional services to support districts during the implementation process, including technical onboarding, product training, and ongoing consultation.
- **Customer Education:** Nieshe emphasized the importance of customer education, with modular training courses, webinars, and continuous learning opportunities to ensure users are well-equipped to use the product effectively.

# Customer Education Program Overview

## 📌 Modular Training Courses

Training courses cover:

- Fundamental and advanced key topics
- Resource facilitation
- Targeted learning
- Sensitivity towards skill levels and pacing
- Using tools and resources with hands-on engagement
- Successful navigation of software

## 🌐 Multiple Delivery Channels

Courses are delivered in online webinars, in-person sessions, and self-paced video tutorials through the [Educator's Hub - GoGuardian University](#).

Sessions include:

- User-end experiences
- Practical exercises
- Simulations
- Hands-on management

## 🔄 Continuous Learning

GoGuardian offers ongoing learning opportunities through webinars, update briefings, and access to a resource library to keep KDE updated with new features.

**Device Support:** Steven Hardwood confirmed that GoGuardian admin supports Windows, Mac OS, and iOS devices through the GoGuardian app. The team will work closely with districts to ensure successful deployment and testing.

**Filtering Beyond School Campus:** Brian Larkin explained that GoGuardian admin offers at-home mode, allowing differentiated filtering for school and non-school hours. The parent app also enables parents to control Internet access on school-issued devices at home.

**Continuous Learning:** David Couch emphasized the importance of continuous learning for both KDE and school districts. The GoGuardian team will provide ongoing training and support to ensure effective use of the product.

**Closing Remarks:** David Couch concluded the open session, thanking the GoGuardian team and participants. There was a Q & A section and David pointed out that we will learn a lot with KDE being the initial implementation. He also mentioned that the current regulation is going through the recertification process internally and we anticipate modernizing terminology and language of that regulation in the very near future. Jody said we will do our best to respond to all of the questions. Please give us a few weeks to create a feedback process.

If interested, we recently did a GoGuardian demo with interested KY K-12 school districts and OET staff members. This is the link to the demo of the GoGuardian Admin product that will be implemented in and used by everyone in KDE organizations and in all KY K-12 districts ([link](#)). You'll need to fast forward to the 9-10 minute mark, because the demo started the recording before the session truly began.

After this GoGuardian presentation concluded, we transitioned into a closed session to discuss recent cybersecurity happenings with just districts and OET staff.