December 2025 KY K-12 CIOs/EdTech Leaders agenda

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- KY K-12 Data Systems Update: (e.g., Follow-up on IC annual conference on December 4th and 5th, IC server moves mid-December to January, etc.) DeDe Conner

- KETS additional budget request for January 2026 legislative session: KASBO. David Couch

- KY K-12 EdTech related legislation during the upcoming legislative session. David Couch and Lisa Moore

- Updated AI information and resources for KY K-12 schools can be found at following link: [AI in Kentucky K-12, December 2025 - Kentucky Department of Education](#)

- 2025-2026 KY K-12 Digital Readiness Report available at the following links: https://applications.education.ky.gov/trs_reports/, https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/1fCFayrIHNP4YBlkAgUYa-AVEVTQUJN1J7-Upa1Oqfog/edit?usp=sharing

- KY K-12 Network Components RFP prep begins. Mike Leadingham

- KY K-12 CUES Identity Management System project update. Chuck Austin

CUES consists of four parts:

(a) Rapid Identity replaces Microsoft Active Directory (AD). x number districts have been transitioned, y number more are in process,

(b) Rapid Identity ties into the existing major KY K-12 EdTech system (i.e., Tyler ERP/Munis, IC, Office 365, Google, etc.),

(c) Microsoft's Internet Protocol (IP) services replaced with Volta/InfoBlox IP services

(d) Turn off OET's Microsoft AD services to all KY K-12 organizations … a small number of districts may choose to continue to use AD on their own.

- Update: GoGuardian implementation in districts. Matt Jury.

- 2025 KY K-12 Computer Science (CS) report. Sean Jackson

- KY Board of Education met on December 3rd and 4th. Certified 704 KAR 8:010, Kentucky academic standards for computer science elective. We Lead Computer Science Update shifted to February 2026. Marty Park and Sean Jackson

- Annual Top 5 EdTech feedback of district CIOs, all OET staff and every KDE office due 15 December 2025. David Couch

- Other topics that districts and staff want to discuss.

Summary and Highlights of the November 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 November 18, 2025, EdTech leaders' virtual meeting. A copy of the video and audio can be found at: https://mediaportal.education.ky.gov/technology/2025/11/edtech-november-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.

(00:47) Beginning on 17 November, Marty Park is now in a new position in KDE's Office of Education Technology (OET) as the Deputy KY K-12 CIO and Chief Digital Officer.

(1:11) IT Oversight Committee (ITOC) Update: The ITOC, a relatively new legislative committee, met on Nov 12th and ENA by Zayo (aka Zayo Education) was asked to speak and educate the committee members on our KY K-12 Next Generation Internet (NGKI) to all KY K-12 public schools. David shared that the ITOC is very complimentary of the Office of Education Technology's long-term approach, with Zayo Education presenting to the committee as the main Internet service provider. You may watch and/or listen to the meeting at the following link Information Technology Oversight Committee (11-12-25)

. Please reference three PDFs, attached in the webcast agenda email, which were part of the discussion.

Information Technology Oversight Committee
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, November 12, 2025 10:00 AM
Annex Room 129

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes

3. Zayo Group

Michael McKerley, President, Zayo Education, LLC
Senior Vice President, Advanced & Managed, Zayo Group

4. Committee Report to LRC

5. Next Meeting
TBD

6. Adjournment

(2:18) 2025 AI Task Force Update: The 2025 AI Task Force held their final meeting on 13 November. David noted that the Kentucky Legislative AI Task Force released its final report for the upcoming legislative session, with several K12-relevant items highlighted. To listen and/or view: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=0NBFlGyWb8o

The task force recommends that the KY General Assembly explore the following actions:

· Consider legislative changes to the Kentucky Consumer Data Protection Act to strengthen consumer protections as data collection processes change with the evolution of AI technology.
· Consider changes to the AI acceptable use policy for all state agencies.
· Consider legislative policies to promote collaboration between service providers, state agencies, and state research universities for the shared use and study of Medicaid data sets for how Kentucky families can prevent certain diseases resulting in lowering health care costs to Medicaid.
· Acknowledge that AI technology may be harmful to minors and consider legislative polices for the protection of minors on social media platforms.
· Acknowledge that AI may impact careers regulated by professional standards and consider legislative policies in coordination with professional standards boards to discuss when and how AI should be used within their profession.
· Create or facilitate the creation of an AI work group to serve as a collaborative platform to bring together state and local governments, educational institutions, healthcare providers, industry, and citizens to identify needs, collect data, develop artificial intelligence solutions, foster innovation and competitiveness, promote artificial intelligence literacy, and ensure trusted artificial intelligence development and governance for Kentucky.
  • Incorporate AI development and governance into existing standing committees' jurisdiction.

- Consider legislative policies for the location of data centers in Kentucky including minimum requirements for location and collaboration among local, state, and private entities.
- Consider legislative policies for data centers' need for large amounts of water and power requiring more baseload power to ensure grid sufficiency, including consultation with the Public Service Commission.
- Encourage Kentucky's federal delegation to work on national policies for AI as it impacts individual Kentuckian's:

  - name, image, and likeness property rights;
  - consumer protection;
  - data protection from retail companies and data-driven pricing; and
  - small business economic issues from a patchwork of state laws.

(2:42) Code.org Presentation of National K-12 and KY K-12 Results: Commissioner Fletcher, OET leadership and Office of Career and Technical Education (OCTE) leadership met with Code.org and have provided input/feedback to Code.org on their annual report, ensuring alignment with district perspectives on computer science and artificial intelligence before they present to boards and legislative committees. 2025 State of AI + CS Education Report | Code.org Advocacy Coalition

(3:13) Computer Science & AI Talking Points: David Couch, Marty Park, and Sean Jackson have produced and shared with Commissioner Fletcher some computer science and AI talking points to help prepare for use with KDE staff and also in preparation for the upcoming legislative session. David shared these points at a recent cooperative meeting, and it was well received.

(3:37) KY K-12 Connected User Experience Update (CUES) Update: Chuck Austin provided a comprehensive update on the Connected User Experience (CUES) initiative, detailing the phased implementation of Rapid Identity, the transition of IP services to Infoblox, and the long-term plan to decommission Active Directory, with input from David and other team members. In attending some recent regional meetings, Chuck shared that he had the pleasure of seeing a few of our retired OET staff members—Phil Coleman and Harold Burchell.

- **Rapid Identity Implementation Phases:** Chuck outlined the three main phases for Rapid Identity rollout: provisioning (currently 79 districts in process with 49 districts live w/provisioning), account claiming for students and staff, and federation to establish Rapid Identity as the single identity provider. He emphasized the importance of local planning for the claim process and assured ongoing support from the enablement team throughout all phases.
- **Cohort Scheduling and Peer Collaboration:** Chuck announced that a new cohort (cohort 3) would begin around the start of December, encouraged districts to watch for invitations, and stressed the value of regional communication and sharing of lessons learned to improve future implementations.
- **Transition to Infoblox IP Services:** Chuck described the ongoing migration of DNS and DHCP services from Active Directory to Infoblox, piloted with Volta, including

hardware installation, removal of legacy equipment, and the replacement of the Tyler Munis VPN appliance. He noted that KDE has already transitioned DNS and will soon move DHCP, with a statewide schedule forthcoming. He showed his appreciation to pilot sites that have assisted with the transition process testing and documentation.

- **Active Directory Decommissioning Strategy:** Chuck explained that after authentication and IP services are fully transitioned, the department will begin decommissioning Active Directory statewide. An advisory group is collecting district approaches, and the team will provide detailed guidance to ensure a smooth transition, recognizing the complexity and potential disruption involved.
- **Options and Risks for Retaining Active Directory:** Chuck clarified that districts may choose to retain their own Active Directory services, but this would require a greenfield approach, new hardware, and significant ongoing support, cost, and risk. The department strongly discourages this path due to its complexity and the trend toward simplification and cost/support reduction (simplify/subtract). Anyone who moves forward with this approach will need to have a good partner while implementing/supporting this approach.

(22:17) Cybersecurity Incident and Lessons Learned: David informed the group of a recent significant cyberattack attempt on Kentucky K12, outlined plans for a closed session to discuss lessons learned, and emphasized the importance of ongoing cybersecurity training and preparedness for all districts. The closed session for our districts and KDE staff reviewed lessons learned, shared professional development insights, and discussed consistent patterns with previous incidents to help districts prepare and respond effectively.

(23:53) GoGuardian Implementation and Device Version Tracking: David and Matt Jury discussed the ongoing GoGuardian implementation, focusing on ensuring districts are running supported versions, tracking device compliance, and addressing waiver situations with direct outreach and reporting.

·   **Version Compliance Monitoring:** Matt reported that 122 districts still have at least one device running a version prior to 1.19.2 for Windows, with 61 districts having 20 or more such devices. The team considers 1.19.2 the most stable version and is working with districts to upgrade and address waiver-related issues.
·   **District Reporting and Support:** Matt clarified that while districts may not have direct access to compliance reports, the KETS engineers receive biweekly updates and can share relevant data with their regions to support local compliance efforts.

(26:52) Operational Items to Note:

·   **STLP Regional showcase** occurring November 19th.
·   **KY K-12 Data Systems Update:**
- KY K-12 School Report Card (SRC) Dashboard public release on November 19th,
- IC annual conference on December 4th and 5th, and
- IC server upgrade and move in mid-December to early January.
- **The annual "Top 5" feedback of all KY K-12 district CIOs/EdTech Leaders, all OET staff and every KDE office due NLT 15 December 2025 to OET:** David reminded participants of the annual top five feedback process, encouraging districts and

staff to submit constructive input on successes, shortcomings, and future goals to inform strategic planning.

- o **Feedback Collection and Use:** David explained that the feedback process gathers the top five things that went well, did not go well, and should be prioritized for the coming year, with Lisa Moore compiling summary notes to support reflection and planning.
- o **Emphasis on Constructive, Attributed Input:** David stressed the importance of non-anonymous, constructive criticism to enable meaningful dialogue and trend analysis, helping align district, staff, and office perspectives for continuous improvement.

(28:40) Draft 2025-2026 Digital Readiness Report: David and Marty Park presented a detailed overview of the draft 2025-26 Digital Readiness report, highlighting device ratios, operating system trends, spending patterns, device mobility, connectivity, and the ongoing decline in technical support staffing across Kentucky K12. In a few weeks the data will be digitally published and available to all districts and then to the public in December. We will also have a KETS Infographic that is used to tell a story as well as a summarization of the Top 10 Trends.

- **Ed Tech Planning and Data Collection:** Marty described the four-stage digital excellence process, including multi-year Ed Tech planning, technology activity reporting, digital readiness assessment, and annual 360-degree feedback, emphasizing the strategic use of these data for statewide and district-level decision-making.

KETS Growth Process

EdTech Plan<ing> — Technology Activity Report — Digital Readiness Survey — 360 Feedback

Digital Readiness

HOME   SNAPSHOT   REPORTS   TRENDS

The Kentucky Technology Readiness Survey provides a snapshot of technology infrastructures throughout Kentucky schools and districts. Information represents data gathered from schools and districts throughout Kentucky as of June 30th each year.

Snapshot

Provides a snapshot of technology data gathered from districts throughout Kentucky as of each year

View

Reports

Summarized highlights / key points of the technology data gathered from districts throughout Kentucky as of each year

Download

Trends

Analyze series of data reflecting the district, regional and state technology trends

Compare

- **Device Ratios and OS Footprint:** David reported a student-to-device ratio of 0.68:1, a slight increase from the previous year, and noted a continued dominance of Chrome OS devices (now nearly 82% of the fleet), with overall device counts declining due to increased surplus activity.

Student to Device Ratio
Digital Excellence

from .65:1 *2024-2025*

.67 :1 *2022-2023*

.78 :1 *2021-2022*

to .68:1

Only representing student devices by membership

Devices: Staff & Students

2024-2025

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

2025-2026

Chrome - 887,775 (81.8%) 2.4% YOY decline
Windows - 127,901 (11.8%)
Mac - 16,502 (1.5%)
iOS - 50,430 (4.6%)
Android - 2,896 (.3%)
Total = 1,085,529 3.7% YOY decline

Note: Looking at this from student membership versus average daily attendance

- **Device Mobility and Assignment:** The team highlighted that 92% of devices are mobile, with a high percentage assigned to students and staff, and discussed the rationale for maintaining both desktops and mobile devices in certain contexts, such as for substitute teachers or specialized classroom technology/media needs. David posed a question via the chat on how districts are purchasing the extended support for remaining Windows 10 devices—many have replaced the workstation, some have purchased the extension through Insight, but zero or close to zero have used a different purchasing mechanism. Assumption from responses is that the extended support is not being purchased from other purchasing mechanisms.
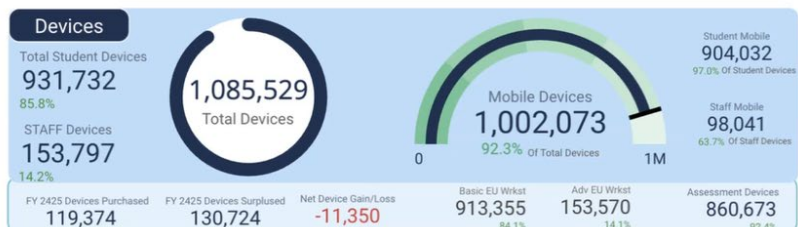
- **Connectivity and Off-Campus Access:** David and Marty shared that the percentage of students without home internet access has dropped to 3.35%, with only 0.86% lacking access even outside the home, reflecting ongoing efforts to close the digital divide and the importance of affordability programs. One of the charts below shows schools with Wi-Fi have risen to 99.86%.

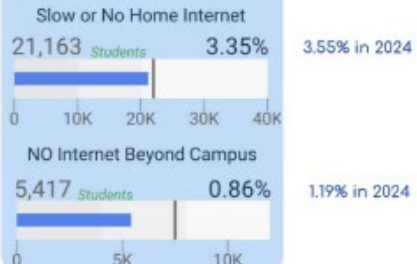Digital Readiness/ **Digital Excellence**/ Access *Storylines*

22 districts

...with no 1:1 or BYOD initiative. Even with ACP going away our connectivity beyond campus and at home has improved.

Student:Device Ratio

ADA	Membership
586,807.9	631,695
0.63	0.68

BYOD only	BYOD & 1:1
56	56
1:1 only	No BYOD or 1:1
40	22

Connectivity

Slow or No Home Internet

21,163 Students   3.35%   3.55% in 2024

NO Internet Beyond Campus

5,417 Students   0.86%   1.19% in 2024

Connectivity

School WAN Connections

100 Mbps & Below	Between 100 Mbps & 1 Gbps
0	11

1 Gbps	Greater than 1 Gbps	@ Hub Site
377	937	111

Schools w/ Wifi for 1:1

99.86%

Student Internet Access
...at **home** and **beyond campus**

% No Home Access

21.1k **3.35%**

*1,355 more kids **have access** than previous year.

% No Access Beyond Campus

5.4k **.86%**

*2,155 more kids **have access** than previous year.
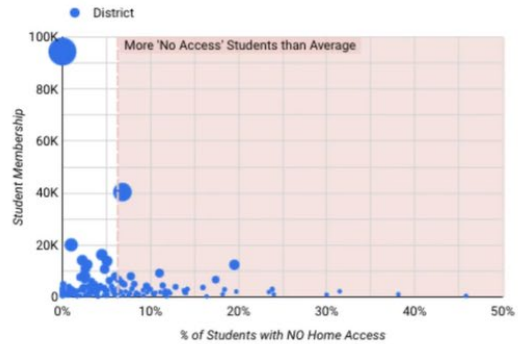
- **People Side/Technical Support Staffing Decline:** The report revealed a 10% year-over-year drop in full-time technical support staff, with a cumulative loss of nearly 300 positions over two years, raising concerns about the sustainability of support and prompting a focus on this issue in future budget requests.

The People Side...

Full-time

826
2018-2019

930
2019-2020

946
2020-2021

1,036
2021-2022
↑10%

1,315
2022-2023
↑27%

1,202
2024-2025
↓

1,081 ↓10%

2025-2026

(CIO + Technician/Network/STC + DLC + Data Quality)
Full-time
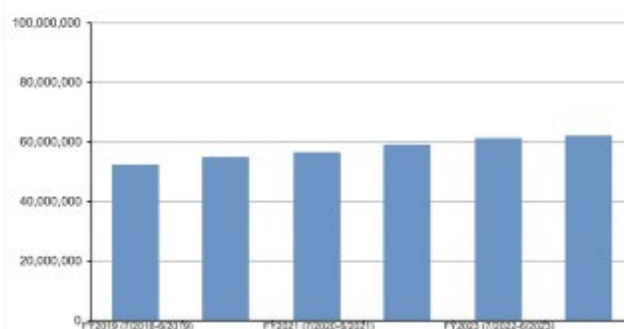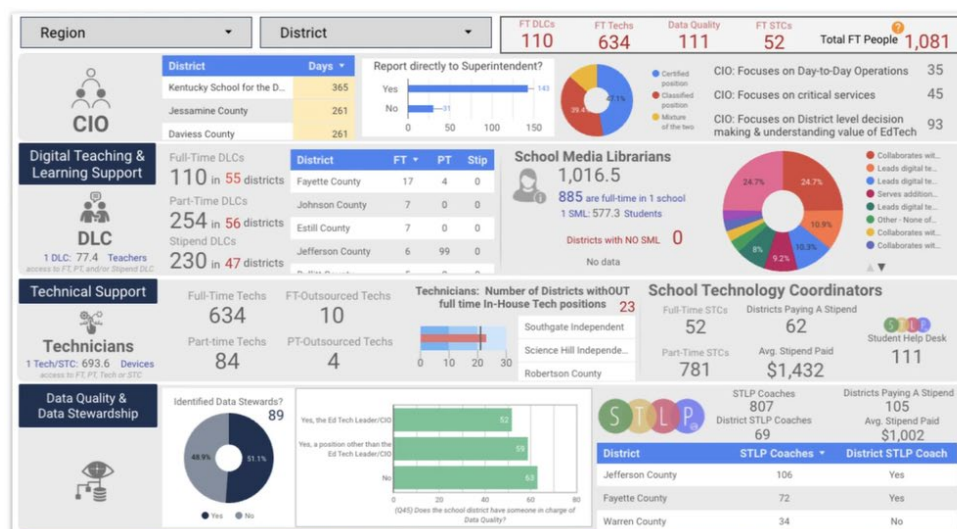
- **Additional Trends and Data Points:** David noted decreases in software and device spending, the impact of the pandemic funding cliff, the prevalence of student help desks, the need for improved data stewardship, and the integration of AI into responsible use policies, with ongoing efforts to refine survey questions and provide actionable dashboards for districts. It was also noted that 92.4% of student devices are used for online testing. We also covered the Security Baseline chart that was not publicly shared—it is our hope to go from some of the security initiatives captured in this report moving from optional to being required.
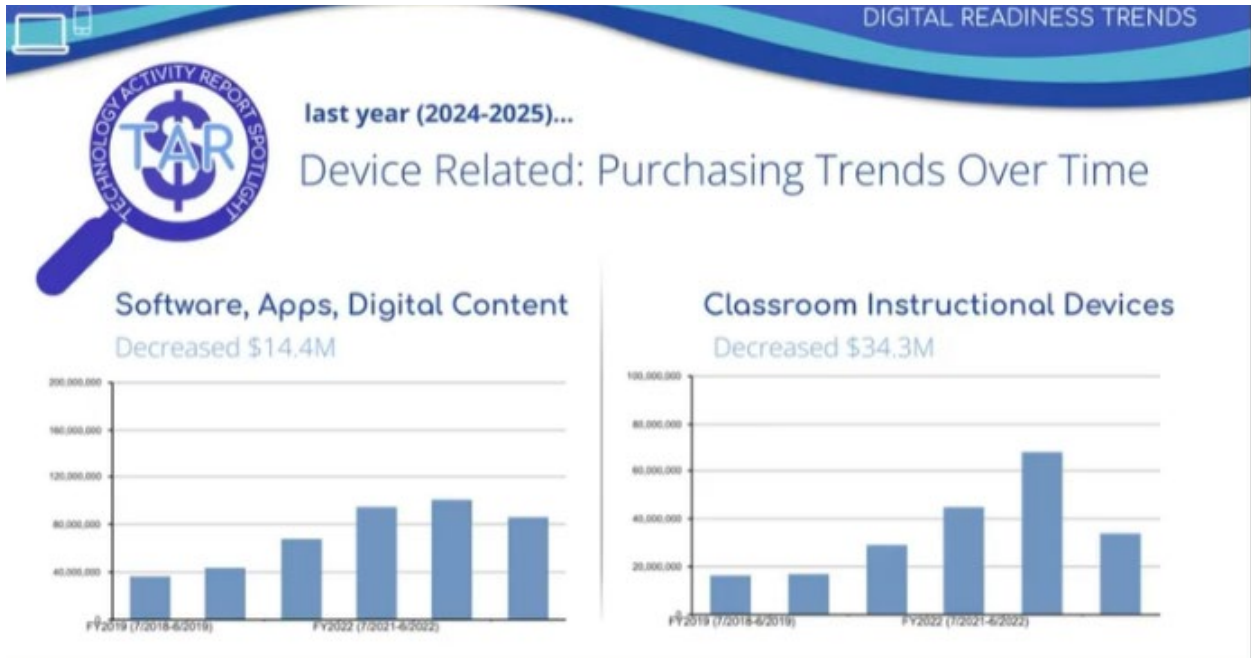
Poll Results:

What's one thing at work you're thankful for--besides coffee?

Awesome KETS

great workmates

Family and friends coffee

Great colleagues

Great Team

Great staff

Tree Cakes Family Great Staff

Great People

Flavored Creamer Awesome

co-workers

STLP Volunteers great co

leaders and staff

Awesome colleagues

Great Techs

75 responses