

July 2025 KY K-12 CIOs/EdTech Leaders' agenda

1. KY K-12 EdTech Finances. David Couch, Mike Leadingham, and Amy Young

- First, earlier in the month, KETS was identified by the Kentucky Board of Education (KBE) as a top 5 funding priority over the next 6 months going into the January 2026 legislative session. You can also watch the presentation of the KBE budget priorities beginning at the 1 hour 53 minute mark of today's 5 June meeting at the following link: [Kentucky Board of Education Meeting – June, 2025 | KDE MEDIA PORTAL](#).
- \$4.3 million in ESSER federal dollars for KETS projects (e.g., IC online registration, KY K-12 CUES/Cybersecurity) has been restored. [ESSER Liquidation Update | AASA](#)
- US Supreme Court supports the e-rate program to continue to provide e-rate discounts/rebates as they do now to KY K-12 school districts and state department of education Internet services to districts like ours in OET. [Supreme Court upholds Universal Service Fund for internet, phone, Supreme Court upholds FCC broadband fund - Live Updates - POLITICO](#), see attached e-mail (i.e., SHLB Applauds SCOTUS Ruling to Uphold Universal Service Fund).
- USDOE announces holdup of \$87M in previously approved Title funds to KY K-12. This impacts KY K-12 Digital Learning Coaches.
- July 15th, the US Senate votes on whether to eliminate 100% of the funding for the Corporation of Public Broadcasting, which provides a substantial amount of annual funds for Kentucky Educational Television (KET) and PBS Learning Media used by a high percentage of KY K-12 schools.
- SY2025-2026 KETS Operating Plan and staff note presented to districts on 15 July and KBE on August 6-7. I will review the main points and details of the staff note and plan.

2. The KY Auditor of Public Accounts (APA) report on KDE the agency released on 2 July 2025. [KDE Special Examination Report 07-01-2025 s.pdf](#)

3. KY K-12 Connected User Experience System (CUES) transition update.

4. Follow-up from 2025 KY K-12 CIO Summit: **Topic #5: Statewide Technical Learning Network.**

In today's rapidly evolving K-12 digital landscape, statewide school districts must establish a robust technical learning network. Such a network would facilitate the sharing of resources, best practices, and innovative EdTech methods across districts, ensuring that all students continue to have access to high-quality technology-infused education regardless of their location. By fostering collaboration among education technology professionals, a technical learning network can help bridge the technical support divide and help fill in major gaps. Additionally, it would support ongoing professional development of technical leaders, enabling them to stay current with the latest advancements and digital strategies. Ultimately, the development of a technical learning network is essential for creating a more connected, efficient, and effective educational system that benefits all stakeholders.

Guiding Questions:

- Other than “all”, which technologies do you find the most difficult to manage effectively and why?
 - For your overwhelmed technology staff, which is of greater need: ongoing Professional Development (training) or on-site/remote assistance?
 - What services have you “brokered” to offset operational tasks to external partners?
 - Which KETS Partners best meet your needs regarding responsiveness, deployment, and support?
 - Where do we have gaps?
 - How successful would a statewide technical learning network with scheduled and programmed professional development topics be?
5. KDE’s Professional Learning Management System (PLMS) as it relates to KY K-12 EdTech.
6. KY K-12 Data System Update: Healthy Data Diet Status of IC tool for districts & Student SSNs, SAT replaces ACT.
7. Reminder: Annual KY K-12 Cybersecurity Health check due in August 2025 by all districts and KDE organizations.

8. The KY legislative IT Committee on the morning of July 9th with OET. A video and audio copy of the committee meeting can be watched at https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=81J7_ZDAnk



**Information Technology Oversight Committee
Meeting Agenda
Wednesday, July 9, 2025 10:00 AM
Annex Room 129**



1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of Minutes

From the March 7, 2025 meeting.

3. Discussion of the KentuckyWired network

A. Kentucky Communications Network Authority

Doug Hendrix, Executive Director
Kentucky Communications Network Authority
Greg Gatson, Chief Operating Officer
Kentucky Communications Network Authority

B. Accelecom

Brad Kilbey, Chief Executive Officer
Accelecom
Kevin H. Marino, Legal Counsel, Accelecom
Member, Marino, Tortorella & Boyle, P.C.

C. Kentucky Department of Education

David Couch, Associate Commissioner, KY K-12 EdTech Leader & Chief
Information Officer
Office of Education Technology
Mike Leadingham, Director
Office of Education Technology

D. Auditor of Public Accounts

Lorran Hart Ferguson, Chief of Staff
Auditor of Public Accounts
Alexander Magera, General Counsel
Auditor of Public Accounts

4. Next Meeting

August 13, 2025 at 10 AM chaired by Senator Williams.

9. The KY legislative AI Committee on the afternoon of July 15th with OET and AI Commission of 16 states, that OET is part of the meeting on July 17 and 18. [A.I. in KY K-12, July 2025 - Kentucky Department of Education](#)

10. FYI: KDE's General Council, Todd Allen, and KDE Commissioner Fletcher will spend time with Superintendents reviewing the KDE interpretations of SB 181 (aka, Traceable Communications) on the monthly Superintendent's webcast on 15 July from 2-4 pm. The Q&A document will be used and then published after the Supt's webcast on the "legislative guidance" page on the KDE website ([Legislative Guidance - Kentucky Department of Education](#)). Our KDE Office of Legal Services is the owner of this Q&A document and will continue to be part of KDE's perspective on this topic.