



KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION Office of Education Technology (OET)

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<https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/tech/Pages/Landing-Page.aspx>

Kentucky is “the” pioneer and national leader in most aspects of K-12 education technology over the past 30 years; however, we’ve always had the mindset that we are far from 100% perfect and thus have continuously improved since the birth of the Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) in 1992. It’s also crucial to know that the size and scope of KY K-12 technology is 8 times larger than the rest of KY state and local government combined and uses 25 times more Internet than the rest of KY state government combined. Few Fortune 100 companies have a bigger tech footprint and service responsibility than KY K-12’s e-tech systems.

OET has a very flat organizational structure with an Office of the CIO and three Divisions with no Branches. OET is responsible for the following for all 171 districts, all of KDE the agency including KSB and KSD:

- Ensure technology properly supports the school district’s education plans and digital readiness, and the Commissioner’s and the Kentucky Board of Education’s (KBE) vision/educational goals.
- Ensure basic and equal, anytime, anywhere, always-on access to instructional and administrative edtech services are provided to students, teachers, administrators, parents, and the general public.
- Build and maintain productive customer relationships with school and district leadership, and establish and maximize external partnerships (e.g., with ed-tech vendors, state agencies and universities).
- Evaluate and implement emerging technologies and trends that may assist with educational needs; manage/maximize edtech funding and resource opportunities.
- Stay current and open to emerging technology and trends that may assist with educational needs; manage/maximize edtech resource opportunities.
- Manage policies and legislation to maximize the equal and effective use of edtech: and
- Maximize data use. Continue to improve data quality. Champion data security & privacy best practices.

Office of the CIO

- Deputy KY K-12 CIO and Chief Digital Officer - Marty Park leads digital learning team, student technology leadership (STLP), comprehensive computer science growth strategy including the CS & IT Academy, student technology competencies tied into graduation requirements, digital learning coach network, online/virtual and remote learning programs, digital library/media, digital citizenship and AI.
- Chief of Customer Relationships and Emerging Technology - Chuck Austin leads all OET Field staff working with all 171 districts and KDE organizations as well as serving as product manager for our major initiatives (e.g., CUES).
- Chief Information Security Officer (CISO) for KDE and all KY K-12 schools - Bob Hackworth
- Education Technology Policy Advisor - Lisa Moore
- Executive Secretary/Office Manager - Janice Harris
- Recently created a Screen Use Guide that outlines a framework for balanced technology use that protects unplugged “tech-free” moments while ensuring students have access to essential digital learning tools. <https://kets.news/screens>

Division of School Technology Planning & Project Management

Mike Leadingham, Director and the Chief of Staff for the Office of the CIO

Amy Young, Assistant Director

Provides front-end technology financial planning, design, engineering, contracting, vendor management, product standards and project management of any technology-enabled projects for schools, district offices, KDE, parents, and the public. Specific top initiatives:

- Leads creation, maintenance, and implementation of the 2024-2030 KETS Master Plan with districts and KDE including goals, tasks, tech product, tech purchasing standards and equal edtech purchasing power throughout the entire state. Our 2024-2030 Kentucky Education Technology System (KETS) Master Plan for all of KY K-12 and our historic 1992-2026 KETS Timeline can be found at <https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/tech/Pages/KETS-2024-2030-KETS-Master-Plan.aspx>

- Manages OET, KETS, state and federal edtech funding programs (e.g., edtech unmet need, offers of financial assistance to districts, KETS Operational Plan and federal E-rate funds for districts) that contribute towards addressing the KY K-12 education technology need identified in the KETS Master Plan for Education Technology for SY12024-2030.
- Leads edtech planning, design and project management for KDE and KY K-12 school districts shared services.
- Leads OET participation in procurement efforts for KETS Shared Services and KDE specific solutions.
- Consults and coordinates the edtech aspects of online testing with other appropriate KDE offices.

Division of School Data Services

DeDe Conner, Director, K-12 Chief Data Officer

Linda Burton, Assistant Director

Manage statewide enterprise education data systems and data governance, ensuring accurate, integrated data to support decision-making and reporting for KDE, schools, districts, parents, and the public. Specific top initiatives:

- Leads KDE and district support for the Kentucky Student Information System (Infinite Campus).
- Facilitates KDE's data diet initiatives including the elimination of collection and use of student Social Security Numbers.
- Leads KDE's K-12 data governance.
- Oversees deployment of the annual KY School Report Card Suite.
- Leads initiatives to maximize data quality and promote effective data use.
- Provides data visualization tools for schools and self-service data research tools.
- Co-leads KDE's data privacy efforts; facilitates and promotes best practices for data sharing by KDE.
- Coordinates legislatively required federal and state reporting and assists districts with their Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) reporting.
- Leads Kentucky's statewide e-Transcripts program supporting high school students, counselors, and college admissions officers.
- Promotes solutions to maximize secure use of data, interoperability between systems, and eliminate the need for redundant data collections.

Division of School Technology Services

Matt Jury, Director and the KY K-12 Chief Technology Officer (CTO)

Brian Spellman, Assistant Director

Provides education technology products and services for schools, district offices, KDE, parents, and the public. Specific top initiatives:

- Leads Internet and content delivery services to all districts and KDE for more than 1.1 million devices.
- Leads the safety and security services for all districts and KDE (GoGuardian content management/protection, cyberattack firewalls, DDoS prevention).
- Provides edtech Help Desk/Service Desk for all 171 public schools, KSD, KSB and KDE.
- Provides support for Enterprise ERP MUNIS (KY K-12's financial mgt system) cloud service for all 171 public school districts.
- School software development and support for all 171 districts and Kentucky educators, including web applications for schools.
- Leads the operation of Ky K-12's new identity management system Connected User Experience System (CUES).