Office of Education Technology

KETS Basic and Advanced Workstation Architectural Standard

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Summary: This document will provide the requirements and recommendations for the purchase of Basic and Advanced workstations for staff and students. This document should be shared with district/school leaders and vendors, so they will understand these requirements prior to selecting and offering solutions. The goal is to assist in purchasing workstations that best serve the district (including schools and classrooms) and meet all necessary security and connectivity requirements before financial obligations are established or installation activity begins.

Intended Audience: The audience of this standard is District EdTech Staff, school and district leaders, and vendors/service providers. This document is to be shared within this audience to establish the need of the districts (in terms of learning design and general school uses) while ensuring the workstations will operate successfully within the technical and security requirements of the KETS environment.

Purpose and Scope: Workstations must meet certain minimum standards to ensure interoperation with other key parts of the KETS environment and be sustainable. Any end-user "computer" device (devices that would be generally recognized as a desktop, laptop, or tablet) purchased by districts primarily for the use of students or staff must meet these standards at purchase and throughout its district usage.

1. Workstations must be capable of and licensed to use a current and centrally manageable modern operating system that is supported by key applications, including but not limited to the services provided by KDE for online assessment, Microsoft 365, and Google Workspace for Education.
2. Districts must ensure that workstation operating system updates and workstation firmware/driver updates are regularly and consistently installed to protect against security vulnerabilities, regardless of whether they use the KETS standard system for software updates.
3. Districts must ensure that workstations, where applicable, are capable of being protected by an antimalware solution that is monitored and kept up to date, regardless of whether they use the KETS standard antimalware system.
4. Districts must ensure that workstations issued and/or purchased by the district are capable of being protected by a controlled and filtered internet access solution that meets CIPA/ECF and 701 KAR 5:120 requirements, regardless of whether they use the KETS standard Internet safety solution.
5. Workstations must have the ability to be centrally managed using a system (or systems) that is capable of enforcing security requirements (such as device encryption), configuring operating system and application updates, and monitoring and configuring anti-malware tools where applicable.

6. Workstations should be selected with consideration of their long-term lifecycle and cost of ownership. Workstations that are aimed at "Advanced or enterprise" rather than "basic or consumer" purchases may have better long-term parts availability and vendor support that outweigh a higher initial purchase price.
7. Warranties, insurance or other support arrangements for workstations should be selected with consideration of total cost of ownership and limited district technical staff; more expensive levels of vendor service may be worthwhile if allowing district edtech staff to focus on higher priorities.

Approved By:

_____7/14/2023_____   _____7/11/2023_____
          Mike Leadingham   Phil Coleman