



# KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

## Office of Education Technology (OET)

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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 edtech 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 equitable 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 edtech 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 equitable and effective use of edtech: and
- Maximize data use. Continue to improve data quality. Champion data security & privacy best practices.

### Office of the CIO

- Chief of Customer Relationships and Emerging Technology - Chuck Austin (leads all OET Field staff working with all 171 districts and KDE organizations like KSB and KSD)
- 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)
- 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

### 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 project 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 equity in 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 1992-2022 KETS Timeline can be found at <https://www.education.ky.gov/districts/tech/Pages/KETS-2024-2030-KETS-Master-Plan.aspx>
- Management of OET, KETS, state and federal edtech funding programs (e.g., edtech unmet need, offers of financial assistance to districts and federal E-rate funds for districts)
- Leads edtech planning and project management for KDE and KY K-12 school districts shared services.
- Consults and coordinates the edtech aspects of online testing with other appropriate KDE offices.
- Leads annual edtech KY K-12 needs and digital readiness surveys/report for districts and KDE.

### Division of School Data Services

***DeDe Conner, Director, and KY K-12 Chief Data Officer (CDO)***

***Linda Burton, Assistant Director***

*Manages statewide enterprise data systems and data governance; integrates information from multiple systems and provides valid data to meet decision and reporting needs for schools, district offices, KDE, parents, and the public. Specific top initiatives:*

- Leads Kentucky Student Information System (Infinite Campus) support for KDE and districts.
- Facilitates system administration and support for the Kentucky Educator Credentialing System (KECS)
- Leads KY K-12 data governance for KDE, including deployment of annual KY School Report Card Suite.
- Leads efforts to maximize data quality and data use.
- Provides data visualization tools for schools. Provides self-service data research tools.
- Co-Leads data privacy efforts; facilitates and promotes best practices for data sharing by KDE.
- Coordinates federal and state reporting, as required by law, and assists districts with Civil Rights Data Collection (CRDC) reporting.
- Leads Kentucky's statewide e-Transcripts program supporting high school students, counselors, and college admissions officers.
- Chair of the National Center for Education Statistics.

### Division of School Technology Services

***Director and the KY K-12 Chief Technology Officer (CTO) (vacant until May)***

***Brian Spellman, Assistant Director***

***Brian McHugh, KY K-12 EdTech Services Delivery Manager***

*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 Internet safety and security services for all districts and KDE (Lightspeed content management/protection, cyberattack firewalls, denial of service prevention and virus protection).
- Provides edtech Help Desk/Service Desk for all 171 public schools, KSD, KSB and KDE.
- Provide MUNIS (KY K-12's financial mgt system) cloud service for all 171 public schools and KDE.
- Education software development to support Kentucky educators. Web applications for schools.
- Involved with Kentucky Educator Credentialing System (KECS) transition and transition/implementation of KY K-12's new identity management system (i.e., Connected User Experience System (CUES)).