

Technology Plan:  
Marion County School District  
Marion County, Kentucky



<http://www.marion.kyschools.us>

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## **Executive Summary**

**This plan presents the district vision of providing a student-centered, individualized education that will assist students in becoming college and career ready. The purpose of technology in education is to serve the needs of staff and students in attaining these goals. This plan establishes priorities that will improve infrastructure and access for a more engaging and active learning environment and provides continued training for teachers to be able to maximize technology use in the classroom. This plan reflects a vision that provides this environment in the classroom each day so that teachers can guide students to be responsible and discriminating consumers and users of information to improve themselves, their community and their world.**

### **Main Areas of Emphasis:**

- **Anytime, Anywhere, Always On teaching and learning individualized to student needs and interests and including one-to-one devices for access to educational resources**
- **Teaching, assessing and modeling Digital Citizenship skills for all students**
- **Data driven decision making abilities for teachers and administrators**
- **Professional development of staff and sharing of resources**
- **Effective communication between students, teachers, parents and administrators**
- **Accuracy, safety and security of information and access**

## **Planning Process / Methodology**

The planning process consisted of data gathering, analysis of current technology resources and then identifying and targeting initiatives and technologies that will meet the future needs of educators and learners. The data gathering phase consisted of consultation with stake holders on the following:

- Evaluation of previous goals met (district-wide wireless infrastructure, open access for personal devices, video-on-demand service, intelligent classrooms throughout all schools, expanded desktop virtualization in classrooms, mobile labs in all schools, and the addition of a technology integration aide to assist in teacher development).
- Identification of goals to accomplish (distance learning use in classroom, online resources available for extended learning, improved teacher technology skills, school-to-home communication, improved modeling and teaching of digital citizenship skills daily, effective classroom use of district and personal devices).
- Future concerns (the effect of personal device use on internet bandwidth, funding sources and resource reductions due to state budget cuts, more and more primary functions going to cloud based services, aging workstations and infrastructure, equal access to resources in all schools, district one-to-one initiative).

The next phase involved developing an understanding of what current technology resources the district has that can be leveraged to meet the needs addressed in phase one.

- One-to-one device access that allows district resources to be focused on infrastructure needs while improving access to students and teachers.
- Distance learning telecommunication devices that can maximize teaching resources and communication between schools without the need for travel time and costs.
- Mobile devices in the hands of administrators for communication and access to make data driven decisions.

The final phase involved identification of technologies and goals contained in this plan that meet the needs of the district and initiatives that promote its stated educational mission and vision. Because of tight budget constraints and diminishing funding the level of implementation may vary but it is the district's intention to fully implement the stated goals contained in this plan.

## **Current Technology and Resources**

Marion County School District consists of four elementary schools, two middle schools, a high school, an A5 high school, and an Area Technology Center. The relative strength of technology varies at each school. The following is a district level evaluation of current technology:

- **Computers** – currently there are over 2400 instructional devices. These devices are on a five year life-cycle requiring the replacement of 200 workstations each year to maintain current ratios. Since current KETS dollars consistently fall short in meeting this requirement there is a continued need for additional funds from other sources. Consequently the actual life-cycle may be pushed to six or seven years. Over time this leads to far older workstations than new. With the advent of cloud based services, many schools have begun moving to a mobile one-to-one and desktop virtualization model that allows for fewer actual computers while maintaining their current number of student stations. The Chromebooks and N-Computing virtualization kits have been the technology used for this model. This has resulted in 900 student terminals.
- **High-Speed Data Lines** – Marion County High School serves as the hub site for the district. As a result of the KDE KEN project Marion County has a 500 MB fiber optic connection to the Internet. Four of the seven schools operate on gigabit connections to the hub site via point-to-point leased fiber optic lines. The remaining sites operate off of district owned fiber.
- **Network Infrastructure** – All schools in the district and Central Office have gigabit speeds to the desktop level.
- **Wireless Networking** – All buildings have integrated wireless environments that are conducive to the use of mobile devices, laptop carts, and student and staff owned personal devices. Every school has wireless access points available in each classroom. Currently approximately 48% of district owned instructional devices are wireless.
- **Intelligent classrooms** – Currently there are intelligent classrooms throughout all schools. All schools also have expanded video on-demand services through the VBrick update that now allows storage of video content based on security groups.
- **Technology Integration** – The Technology Integration Aide has the primary focus of classroom instruction on digital citizenship skills.

## Curriculum and Instructional Integration Goals

### Goal 1

Marion County Schools will integrate instructional technology into all areas of the curriculum aligned to teacher and student standards promoting the view of technology as integral to student learning.

### Action Plan: Projects/Activities

Project/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
There is evidence that teachers incorporate the use of technology in their classrooms, exercise appropriate use, and extend learning beyond the school day.	Students will see technology use and digital citizenship modeled appropriately to accomplish learning goals in the classroom.	Observations and certified employee evaluations will monitor the use of technology in classrooms. Teacher web pages containing online content. Reports of usage from MAP, Encylomedia, Discovery Learning, Renaissance Learning, Compass Learning, etc	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Principals	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, PD, Title I, Title II
Each school will have a STLP group to assist in instructional and maintenance support for school systems.	STLP activities, productions and showcases will focus upon student technology standards within the six STLP Goals.	Results from STLP showcases, products, community activities, field trips.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	School STLP Directors, Principals, DTC	KETS STLP Fund
All teachers will be expected make use of technology tools available in their schools to deliver content on a daily basis.	Students will understand that technology provides the tools for meaningful learning.	Teachers are evaluated by state technology standards. Professional development funds will be used to provide teachers with the proper training to best use the tools available.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Principals	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, PD, Title I, Title II
Technology Integration will lead professional development and provide instructional technology support directly in the classroom.	Teacher will gain competence and confidence to initiate and maintain technology integration goals	Teachers are evaluated by technology standards, increase in digital content, online classroom content, student work.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC, Principals	General Fund

## Goal 2

Marion County Schools will continue to maintain and implement one-to-one intelligent classrooms in all schools to provide a rigorous and relevant environment that embeds technology tools within content specific coursework.

### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
Mobile devices in classroom sets to provide 1:1 learning in a limited environment.	Instruction will be content driven and individualized with technology as the medium.	Student formative and summative assessments will determine strengths, weakness and learning goals.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	General Fund, Title I
Student and staff personal devices used in class to increase access beyond the available instructional devices provided by schools.	Increase information access in the classroom for instruction, communication, and interaction.	Logs of devices connected to network, proxy logs of accessed materials, student produced content.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund, Erate
Video on Demand will be available to all staff and students with access restricted by AD security groups for in class access to live and recorded media including live broadcasts within the district.	Improve access to stored media libraries at each school. Improved monitoring of viewing by staff and students. Provide ability to directly stream broadcasts to users across the district.	Usage of logs of users based on AD credentials. Content libraries stored by each school will show quality and quantity of media used.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund, Erate



## **Curriculum and Instructional Integration Goals - Evaluation**

Marion County has invested much in intelligent classroom devices, distance learning technology, differentiated online learning systems (i.e. Compass Learning) and integrated wireless environments in all schools. This section emphasizes the continued growth in the use of these tools daily in the classrooms. To achieve at high levels students and staff need access to information readily available on the internet. The data gathered under this section will allow district technology to determine what can be done by way of professional development maintenance and repair that will improve the level of use of these valuable tools. The primary focus of increased student freedom of access is to maintain a safe and secure network environment. Therefore a balance must be found between providing the infrastructure for that access and the increased level of supervision necessary to insure that this resource is being used for improving instruction and preparation of students for college and careers in an information driven world. Much of the evaluation data for this section will come from formative and summative assessments and observations in the classrooms. Additionally network infrastructure has been augmented to include user sign on requirements to open access wireless. Thus more concrete data will be available from proxy logs which will detail the use of personal devices and for what purposes. These logs will be shared with administrators as needed to make corrections to problems or other areas of concern.

## Student Technology Literacy Skills

### Goal 1

Students will acquire information and technology literacy skills at all levels with grade appropriate instruction and hands on experience.

### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
Student use of technology for learning will be content embedded within lessons on a daily basis.	Students will use technology skills and tools to make connections, collaborate, and gain understandings of core content.	Student produced content such as blogs, wikis, presentations, videos, podcasts, social media, etc. will demonstrate content mastery.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Principals, Teachers	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, Title I, Title II
Technology Literacy classes beginning at middle school with an emphasis on Digital Citizenship	Student technology and information literacy skills will benefit student content mastery and be on level with students in the state, nation, and world.	Course completion and performance provides the basis for assessing student technology proficiency by the end of the 8 <sup>th</sup> grade.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Principals, Teachers	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, Title I, Title II
Student use of personal devices will emphasize responsibility and instructional focus.	Students will understand that information access to meet instructional objectives is the goal of using personal devices in school.	Proxy logs will record student network activity. Teacher supervision will maintain focus on instructional objectives.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Principals, Teachers, DTC	KETS, Erate Funds
Digital Driver's License for students in grades 4, 6 & 9-12.	Students will show mastery of digital citizenship skills and concepts prior to being granted network access.	Digital Driver's License instruction and assessment required for 1:1 environment.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Technology Integration Aide, Teachers	No funding required

## **Student Technology Literacy Skills - Evaluation**

The middle schools have implemented technology literacy as an exploratory class. This class curriculum is project based and emphasizes Digital Citizenship skills. The two middle schools are collaborating closely in standardizing the content and its delivery. Additionally this plan sets forth that students in grades 4, 6, and 9-12 will have to complete a Digital Driver's License assessment. The DDL will be a requirement for students to participate in the one-to-one device project. The result should be more technically literate students who are prepared to make use of technology tools to enhance their education as well as understand the responsibilities that come with such use. The expectation is to see more sensitivity among students to issues such as cyber-bullying and decreased instances of infractions both in and out of school. Assessment data for course work and discipline referrals will detail success and provide for directional changes.

## Staff Training/ Professional Development Goals

Staff training must be content driven and focused on the specific learning goals of this technology plan and the vision of the district to prepare students for life-long learning in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.

### Goal 1

Strengthen and expand teacher use of technology in the classroom for instruction and assessment at high levels with special emphasis on intelligent classroom tools, 1:1 technologies and digital citizenship.

#### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
Teacher training on intelligent classroom elements such as 1:1 mobile devices conducted in district by district staff.	Teachers receive relevant classroom experience embedded training in best use of technology tools to improve assessment for learning.	Teacher generated lessons, assessments, and activities. Formative and summative evaluations of teachers and students.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund
Webpage training on classroom sites with emphasis on digital content technology and use in classroom.	Teachers will be able to extend learning, store classroom materials in digital form, communicate with parents and collaborate with peers.	Teacher webpage content such as blogs, wikis, podcasts, video, and storage.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund
Teacher training on the elements and practices of digital citizenship and its importance in 21 <sup>st</sup> century learning.	Students will exercise appropriate use and responsibility of technology tools and practice strategies to protect themselves and others	Student formative and summative assessments. Student projects that illustrate understanding of digital citizenship	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund

## Goal 2

Orient teachers and administrators to the use of mobile one-to-one devices, Web tools including providing online digital content available to students.

### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
Teachers will be provided extensive training in the use of mobile 1:1 devices	Teachers will implement technology tools to collaborate, extend learning, host online meetings, provide access to resources unavailable within the district, etc.	Usage logs, teacher lesson plans, teacher formative and summative evaluations, student formative and summative assessments.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund
Teachers will have digital version of classroom content and resources to move district away from print based mediums.	Students will access material and instructional content online for any time always on learning.	Quantity and quality of digital media. Teacher formative and summative evaluations, students formative and summative assessments.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund
Google Classroom, Office 365, Edmodo, and Compass Learning will provide digital information available online. Teachers will be provided training in its use.	Online content provides instant access to class materials at all times by students and parents for extended learning.	Student formative and summative assessments, teacher classroom pages and content quality. Teacher evaluations.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund
Teachers training focused on best uses of student personal devices emphasizing supervision.	Increase student access to information for instructional uses.	Network logs will show traffic uses. Observations by principals and support from TIS	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	Teachers, Principals, DTC	KETS & General Fund

### **Staff Training/Professional Development - Evaluation**

The district conducts a technology assessment yearly to determine the skill levels of our teachers. Principals can use this data to plan for professional development in areas of concern. District Technology Integration will be a resource in the classroom to aid in data gathering and targeting additional training goals. The district provides in-house technology training in the use of intelligent classroom tools, distance learning, web page use, Compass Learning and web tools such as Google Classroom, Office365, Edmodo, etc. These technology trainings are conducted at the discretion of the principals and availability of skilled trainers. Sign in sheets and evaluation forms provide feedback as to who is attending and whether the information was useful. Principal observations and yearly assessment data will show whether or not progress is being made in skill levels of staff.

## Technology Goals

Marion County Schools is committed to providing an environment for learning that is relevant to the information age that we live in today. Students must have access to modern technologies and communication systems in order to learn the skills to succeed in this age. Inadequate funding continues to plague these efforts of providing quality technological tools to students and staff. Maintaining a consistent vision among all stakeholders will be necessary to leverage all available resources and continue to grow and make progress toward this commitment.

### Goal 1

Hardware and software will be maintained, refreshed and upgraded to meet the increasing demands for technology resources for instruction by students, staff and members of the community.

### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
All workstations will have high-speed (100 KB per student) access to the Internet for students and staff in compliance with CIPA requirements.	Provides students with virtually unlimited resources for information, collaboration and communication while access is monitored and logged by district Proxy Server.	Proxy logs will show bandwidth usage, KDE Annual Technology Readiness data will show number of connected classrooms and workstations.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
All district networks will support software for instruction, evaluation, record keeping, and data management.	Monitoring of academic, instructional, attendance, and service status is available and secure throughout the district for data driven decision making.	School Information Software reports including Thinklink, MAP, Discovery Learning, Encyclomedia, Infinite Campus, Lunchbox, etc.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
Modern instructional devices will be available in all schools to provide students with the information tools necessary to aid in the completion of instructional tasks and maintain network security.	Students must have experience with modern instructional devices and operating systems to better complete assigned tasks and be prepared for the working world upon graduation.	KDE annual Technology Readiness and School Report Card data will show quantity, ratios, and age of equipment. Inventory and purchase records will show refresh rates.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
Cloud-based software tools will be available on all devices.	Students will gain knowledge of productivity software to enable them to complete assigned tasks and learning activities.	Student Technology Literacy assessments will show progress of student skills with productivity software.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC, Principals, Teachers	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund

## Goal 2

Student access to information and telecommunication based resources will be mobile and instant allowing for a ubiquitous data-rich instructional environment that engages all learners and improves student academic performance.

### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
All students will be provided with safe and secure access to a student email account and Google Classroom and Office365 accounts.	Student email provides access to others for purposes of collaboration, information, and communication allowing for the extending of the learning day beyond the standard school schedule.	Active directory will detail the number and level of each user as well as the storage space used for each mailbox.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
All students will be provided with a network identification and password.	All network resources are accessible and secured through student logons allowing for storage, research, and communication needs.	Active directory will detail the number and level of each user. Logon records will show amount of usage.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
All students will be provided with a secure network directory accessible throughout the district and from home for reliable storage and retrieval of instructional work.	Students will be able to store and share assigned work and projects and will be accessible from home through a secure connection extending learning beyond the standard school day schedule.	Teachers will monitor the usage of shared student workspaces.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
All students will be provided with CIPA compliant access to the Internet contingent upon parental/guardian consent and signed Acceptable Use Policy agreement.	The Internet is a valuable resource for information and educational communication. Responsible use of this access is a vital component of 21 <sup>st</sup> Century learning and Digital Citizenship.	KETS standard proxy server or other filtering device will provide logs of student access in compliance with AUP.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
High-speed and secure wireless network environments will be provided throughout all school buildings.	Wireless provides the backbone for instant access to resources for instructional, research, storage, and communication needs of students and teachers.	Network management software, active directory, and proxy logs provide data concerning devices connected via wireless network and the use of each.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate



Mobile wireless devices will be an option at all schools to provide the benefits of individual access to the average classroom.	Students will be able to use the devices for instructional, research, storage and communication needs without having to go to a designated computer lab.	Purchasing records and fixed asset data can provide data on which school have devices and the quantity of each. Proxy and network logs will show usage.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
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### Goal 3

Information and telecommunication technology will provide schools with a means for maintaining a safe and efficient learning environment and provide staff the ability to improve communication to parents and students as well as make data driven decisions concerning student academic success and physical and emotional health and safety.

#### Action Plan: Strategies/Activities

Strategy/Activity	Instructional Outcome	Indicator	Timeline	Person(s) Responsible	Funding Source
Telephones will be available in all classrooms to provide teachers and students with instructional, safety, and progress monitoring communication.	Telephones secure by access codes allow contact with parents, administrators and instructional resources such as conference calls.	Parent contact logs and telephone bills provide data on quantity and locations of phone lines and the amount of usage for contact calling.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
All district networks will support software for instruction, evaluation, record keeping, and data management.	Instructional and management software provide teachers, students, administrators, and parents with data for efficient progress monitoring and decision making.	School Information Software reports including Thinklink, MAP, Discovery Learning, Encyclomedia, Infinite Campus, Lunchbox, etc.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
Wireless voice and data communication will be provided for support staff only.	Cellular telephones serve as a means of instant communication for safety, maintenance, and technical support. More efficient communication results in more consistent instructional resource availability and safety.	Wireless bills provide data on quantity of lines and the daily usage of each. Bills are reviewed each month to insure that accuracy and proper usage is maintained.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
Internet based web sites for every classroom will be available for teachers, parents and students to communicate and extend learning beyond the regular school day.	Individualized teacher websites and blogs will allow easier access to information and provide access and storage to student work anytime.	Online host provider software provides reports on usage, content, logon, and guest visits to the sites.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC, Principals	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate

All district classrooms will have direct connection to video and broadcast services for instructional, safety and informational needs	Video infrastructure will support transmission of broadcast television signals and other video directly to classrooms	Lesson plans, program schedules will serve as evidence of use.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund, E-Rate
Security cameras and remote locking mechanisms will be maintained at all schools with standardization and central management.	Allowing for controlled access to the school throughout school hours providing for a safer and more instructionally focused school day.	Client software reports on camera up times, alarms and video time-stamps. Locking systems log access times and users.	07/01/16 – 06/30/17	DTC	KETS, Voc ED, General Fund

## **Technology Goals - Evaluation**

This area deals with the infrastructure goals and resources needed to continue student academic achievement and prepare them for the next step in their educational lives. Because of funding reductions some of the goals of this section may need to be adjusted within the timeline of this plan. Refresh rates of instructional device, in particular, will have to be modified if schools are unable to provide additional funding to offset shortfalls in technology funds or augment refresh cycles through the use of virtualized desktops and mobile devices. Evaluation data on this section of the plan will be contingent on the shape that the technology landscape takes over the course of the plan year. Data from indicators listed in the section will provide the necessary evaluative directions for training of staff and communication with parents. Administrators and Marion County Board of Education members will be updated as needed to these directional changes.

## **Budget Summary**

The budget summary page that follows details the funding of technologies from each of the various fund sources. The primary funding source for technology for Marion County Schools is the KETS assistance funds and match provided by the district. This year's plan uses KETS funds to provide the infrastructure and upgrades necessary to maintain and expand current technology initiatives such as STLP and network hardware. Workstation refresh rates are targeted at 5 year cycles but less funding has resulted in longer life cycles for this equipment. Because of the need for infrastructure costs to be met using KETS funds, schools must shoulder the burden of replacing computer workstations. This plan therefore assumes that schools will adequately budget for the replacement of several computer workstations annually to avoid the high cost of replacing all of their out dated machines at once. The funding necessary to do this is listed under the Other category for computer hardware. Upgraded systems will need to be purchased to replace aging hardware to keep networks operating efficiently. Mobile devices such as Chromebooks are a less expensive viable alternative to workstations in the classroom. Virtual desktop devices are also a probable upgrade path for schools to take to maximize cost savings. Such devices place a heavier burden on network infrastructure therefore requiring a robust high speed Wide Area Network. High speed data lines will be leased for the coming funding year for four sites. All other sites are connected at high speed through district owned fiber optic cable.

Erate is also a major source of educational technology. This program allows telecommunication technologies such as telephone and digital transmission services to be purchased at a fraction of the cost. The current erate funding level for 2016-2017 is 80%. Other sources of technology funding comes from Vocational Education which will be used for updating costs associated with Project Lead The Way and the General Fund which includes erate match and district and school technology purchases.

**School Year: 2016-2017**  
**Annual Budget Summary**

<b>Acquired Technologies and Professional Development</b>	<b>E-Rate</b>	<b>KETS</b>	<b>Other (Specify)</b>
Computer Hardware		\$50,000	Voc Ed \$15,000 General Fund \$250,000
Productivity Software		\$5,000	Voc Ed \$1,000 General Fund \$5,000
Support Software			Voc Ed \$2,000 General Fund \$20,000
Professional Development		\$5,000	
STLP		\$15,000	
Network Hardware & Maintenance		\$20,000	
Web Hosting		\$7,000	
Security Cameras & Locks			General Fund \$30,000
Telephone/Cellular	\$26,000		General Fund \$6,000
High Speed Data Lines	\$48,000		General Fund \$12,000
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$74,000</b>	<b>\$102,000</b>	<b>\$338,000</b>

