

## KENTUCKY DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION STAFF NOTE

**Topic:** Kentucky Education Technology Systems (KETS) School Year (SY) 2019-2020  
Operational Technology Needs for Local Education Agencies (LEAs)

**Date:** August 2019

**Action Requested:**    Review    Action/Consent    Action/Discussion

**Held In:**    Full Board    Curriculum, Instruction and Assessment  
                   Finance    Operations Management

### SUMMARY OF ISSUE BEFORE THE BOARD:

To take action on the annual KETS education technology operational needs. This item has come before the board annually since 1992.

### COMMISSIONER'S RECOMMENDATION:

The Commissioner recommends that the annual KETS operational needs for SY 2019-2020 be approved as presented.

### APPLICABLE STATUTE OR REGULATION:

KRS 156.670, KRS 157.655, KRS 157.660, 701 KAR 5:110

### BACKGROUND:

#### *Existing Policy:*

According to KRS 157.655, the School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) can provide a KETS Offer of Assistance to each school district only after the state board approves the annual education technology needs for the most current school year for all school districts. Since 1992, in either June or August of each year, board members are reminded of the annual KY K-12 education technology needs (i.e., up to \$366M) that are based upon the most current version of the KETS Master Plan (i.e., the 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan). As a reminder for this specific staff note, the KBE is only required to acknowledge and approve the annual KETS education technology need for the upcoming school year. In the accompanying staff note, KBE members will be made aware of the federal, state and local resources that may also go toward addressing the KY K-12 statewide education technology operational management needs during the next school year.

#### *Summary of Issue:*

The SY 2018-2024 Master Plan for Education Technology represents a statewide projection outlining the needs for KY K-12 education technology operational management. This includes the primary technology components, services, and people needed to ensure ease of access to an equitable 21st century learning environment. In accordance with KRS 156.670, this projection establishes the baseline education technology need for all Kentucky public schools and districts

and includes the annual resources required to sustain the education technology shared services provided by the KDE to all schools and districts statewide. Each Master Plan item represents an industry standard “best practice” approach as opposed to a requirement and carries the expectation that a wide variety of local, state and federal resources should be leveraged to address the ongoing need to implement and incrementally replace all technology components and services (701 KAR 5:110). This up to \$366M figure is derived from the 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan that contains the initial acquisition, ongoing operational, incremental replacement and average lifespan of each technology component.

This need projection does not reflect the additional technology components and/or services that districts choose to implement above and beyond the baseline need (e.g., security cameras, video surveillance systems, environmental technology, personal data storage devices, smartphones, etc.), but are recognized as flexible priorities that districts may address exclusively with available local and/or federal resources.

Each district is required to report overall implementation progress for all baseline technology components, services, and staffing on an annual basis. The annual statewide reporting cycle consists of three required components in order to participate in the statewide KETS program:

1. District Technology Plan
2. Digital Readiness Feedback
3. Technology Activity Report

The Master Plan also anticipates that as technology components and services continue to evolve, innovation will possibly reduce the dependency on a particular technology component. As an example, it’s expected that as end-user access to digital content increases, the reliance on printing services will naturally decrease over the six-year span of our current plan. Conversely, as the expectation of high-speed access to digital content continues to escalate, it is anticipated that the bandwidth need associated with Internet access will continue to increase at a moderate rate. The KY K-12 education technology need projection worksheet is found in Appendix H of the approved 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan.

The attached KETS Timeline provides a history of the program’s successes since its inception in 1992 while the attached KETS Infographic provides a visual depiction of analytics from multiple sources reflecting the varied technology trends taking place over the past year. KETS Offers of Assistance only represent part of the operational management strategy needed to support each district’s technology services.

In the 2018-2024 KETS Master Plan and in the next staff note which contains the SY 2019-2020 KETS Operational Plan, we identify the KETS program services, subsequent annual KETS offers of assistance along with other federal, state and local resources that can be used to help address the district’s annual education technology needs.

The SY 2019-2020 KETS Operational Plan in the next staff note also makes the board aware of a variety of SY 2019-2020 resources that are available to go toward the SY 2019-2020 education technology needs. Districts will need to continue to secure alternative resources beyond the

KETS resources. This includes federal resources, local grants, corporate donations, etc. to fully address their education technology needs.

*Budget Impact:*

The following must occur before a district receives its resources: (1) State board approves the education technology needs for each district, (2) School Facilities Construction Commission (SFCC) approves the education technology need, (3) The district successfully meets all of the statutory requirements of KRS 157.655 and KRS 157.660, (4) the district verifies its final ADA count to KDE, and (5) KDE calculates the KETS Offers of Assistance based on these variables. The districts must follow requirements of the SFCC by receiving approved board action and proof of deposit into a local interest bearing technology account. The SFCC will then wire to the district's technology account.

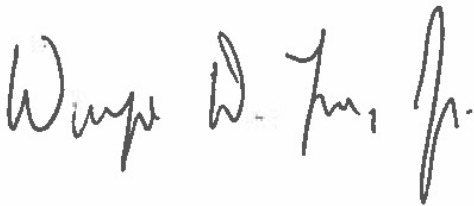
**GROUPS CONSULTED AND BRIEF SUMMARY OF RESPONSES:**

- KY K-12 Local Superintendents Advisory Council (LSAC) through approval of the KETS SY 2018-2024 Master Plan for Education Technology
- KY K-12 district education technology leadership staff (e.g., Chief Information Officers, District Technology Coordinators, Chief Education Technology Officers)
- Kentucky Society of Technology in Education (KySTE)
- Student Technology Leadership Program (STLP)
- All KDE office representatives in our Technology Planning Committee and senior leaders
- KY K-12 education technology vendors and partners (e.g., KY K-12 educational cooperatives).

These groups/individuals are in support of the approval of the annual KETS Master Plan education technology need that has been identified for the upcoming school year.

**CONTACT PERSON(S):**

David Couch, Associate Commissioner  
Office of Education Technology  
[David.Couch@education.ky.gov](mailto:David.Couch@education.ky.gov)  
(502) 564-2020 ext. 2229



---

**Commissioner of Education**

Category:  District Innovation     Strengthening Educators     Family/Community Involvement  
 Student/Family Supports     Student Interventions     Coursework Completion     Accountability Reporting