### **Educational Technology Monthly Call**

February 8, 2024



#### Agenda

- Digital Learning Updates
- Emergency Connectivity Fund, E-Rate, and ACP
- Cybersecurity
- Important Reminders and Other Information



## **Digital Learning Updates**



#### National EdTech Plan (NETP)

The U.S. Department of Education released the 2024 National Educational Technology Plan (NETP): A Call to Action for Closing the Digital Access, Design and Use Divides.

- Focuses on three digital divides:
  - Digital Use Divide
  - Digital Design Divide
  - Digital Access Divide



#### K-5 Teacher Professional Training Opportunity

Registration is now open for the Ignite Project. This project is open to all K-5 public and public charter school teachers with a free 40 hour training that provides

- computational thinking and hands-on project based learning tools;
- pedagogical techniques for computer science instruction; and
- resources from Code.org, ScratchJr., Micro:bit, and robots.



#### **Teacher Preparation: Computer Science (5652) Praxis Exam**

Registration is now open for the Energize Project. This project is open to all 6-12 public and public charter school teachers with a free 40 hour virtual training that provides

- practice praxis content materials;
- tutoring and peer learning communities; and
- feedback from computer science faculty at Southeastern Louisiana University.



#### Kami Update

- If you have not completed the <u>Kami intake form</u>, please do so as soon as possible to ensure distribution of Kami licenses to your domain.
- Kami is working to ensure that school systems currently subscribing to Kami are receiving the necessary support and guidance.
- Summer professional development opportunities will be announced in March.



#### **UDL** and Assistive Technology Webinar

CAST-The Center for Inclusive Technology and Education Systems will be hosting a webinar event titled "Boosting Student Success: Integrating Assistive Technology Across the Educational Life Span" on Feb 14, 2024 02:30 PM CST. This leadership panel will highlight the assistive technology (AT) guidance released by the U.S. Department of Education in January 2024. The guidance package focuses on promoting and ensuring greater access to assistive technology (AT) for students with disabilities.

This webinar is open for anyone to attend. To register, click here.

# E-Rate, Affordable Connectivity Program, and Emergency Connectivity Fund



#### Reminder: FCC Cybersecurity Pilot Program

The FCC Cybersecurity Pilot Program was published in the federal register on Dec. 29th. Initial comments were filed by January 29, 2024 and reply comments can now be submitted on or before February 27, 2024.

#### **Key takeaways:**

- Applicants will be required to complete a pre-application and be approved to submit a formal Form 470/471 application to participate in the program.
- The FCC is deciding on what type of applications to fund (large statewide or multi-school system) applications or small single school system applications).
- The pilot would provide funding to eligible K-12 schools and libraries to defray the qualifying costs of receiving the cybersecurity and advanced firewall services.
- Protection of the overall Universal Services Fund from excessive costs related to cybersecurity.



#### **Emergency Connectivity Fund FAQ**

USAC has released a new <u>Emergency Connectivity Fund FAQ</u> with detailed information on key questions. We recommend if any of these questions apply to your school system to read the FAQ completely to ensure you are following the new guidance.

#### **End of Program Questions:**

Q: Can a school keep connected devices and/or hotspots at the school if school is no longer remote?

Q: If a school or library's ECF-funded device or hotspot has been provided to a student or school staff member with an unmet need and for remote learning but is later returned during the relevant funding period, is the school or library required to redistribute the device or hotspot to another student, school staff member, or library patron with an unmet need and for remote learning? In what other ways may ECF-funded equipment be utilized after it has been returned by its originally intended user? (Note different answers for schools and libraries.)

#### **Emergency Connectivity Fund FAQ - cont'**

Q: Will program rules regarding limitations on the use of ECF-funded equipment continue to apply after the conclusion of the program?

#### **Non-Usage Certifications:**

Q: What must applicants or service providers who agree to invoice on behalf of applicants do to be compliant with the non-usage certification?

Q: If a service provider discovers that funded equipment and/or services are not being used, should they automatically allocate those costs from their requests for reimbursement and bill the applicant directly for this non-usage?

Q: Once a funding commitment decision letter has been issued, are there any additional steps that service providers using SPI invoicing should take before starting the services and/or submitting requests for reimbursement?

#### Affordable Connectivity Program (ACP)

The FCC has announced the wind-down of the ACP Program. participating internet service providers have been instructed to send the first of three notices to their ACP customers alerting them to the likely program termination. Those first notices were to have been sent by January 25th. The next deadline will be this Friday, February 7th, at which point (6:00 p.m. EST) new enrollments in ACP will no longer be permitted.



#### **Upcoming E-Rate Deadlines**

- Upcoming Form 486 Deadlines
  - Feb 9-FY 2023 Wave 25
  - Feb 16 FY 2023 Wave 26
  - Feb 23-FY 2023 Wave 27
- Feb 28 Extended invoice deadline for FY 2022 recurring service FRNs.
- Feb 27 Due date for reply comments on the FCC's cybersecurity pilot NPRM.
- Feb 28 Last day to file a Form 470 for FY 2024 to ensure the 28 days posting requirement is met.
- March 27 Close of the Form 471 application window for FY 2024. To be considered as having been filed "in window," Form 471s must be filed and certified by 11:59 p.m. EDT.

## Cybersecurity



#### Cyber Advisories

There were 16 new advisories posted since Jan. 1st, 2024. Below are advisories that are currently being exploited in the wild. Please apply appropriate updates provided by the software and/or system vendor.

- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2023-016: Multiple Vulnerabilities in Ivanti Products Could Allow for Remote Code Execution
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2023-009: Multiple Vulnerabilities in Apple Products Could Allow for Arbitrary **Code Execution**
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2024-008: Multiple Vulnerabilities in VMware Products Could Allow for Remote **Code Execution**
- MS-ISAC Advisory # 2024-005: Multiple Vulnerabilities in Google Chrome Could Allow for Arbitrary **Code Execution**

A complete list of all Advisories available <u>here</u>.



#### Raptor Technologies Data Breach

Raptor Technologies LLC, a school safety and security company, left over 4 million records, containing sensitive school safety information and personal identifiable information (PII) of students, teachers, and parents exposed to the internet for an unknown period of time. After being made aware of the data leak by a security researcher, the company secured the exposed information.

Some school systems have received notification from the company that their data was included in the breach.

Customers can also contact Raptor's Security Support team at <a href="mailto:raptorsecurityinfo@raptortech.com">raptorsecurityinfo@raptortech.com</a> to confirm if your school's data was compromised.

If your school uses Raptor Technologies solutions, please email us at edtech@la.gov so we can share any new information we receive about to breach with you.

You can read more about this incident here



## Education Technology Monthly Webinar & Meeting Dates



## 2023-2024 Education Technology Monthly Webinars

Slides from each meeting will be posted on the <u>Educational Technology</u>
<u>Leaders website</u>. Recordings are available on request. A <u>complete calendar</u> of LDOE events can be found on the Louisiana Believes website.

#### **Upcoming Monthly Call Dates**

- March 14
- April 11
- May 9

Time:	9:00 AM -10:00 AM
Webinar Link	https://ldoe.zoom.us/j/575223228?pwd =NDNlN01SS3c0Rk4wV25aNkZhTEc2Z z09
Phone Number	1-301-715-8592
Meeting ID	Meeting ID: 575 223 228 Password: 2020-202!

### Reminders



#### Reminder: LDOE EdTech Contacts

- Carol Mosley will be intermittently out of office in the upcoming months.
- Please email <a href="mailto:edtech@la.gov">edtech@la.gov</a> or <a href="mailto:digitallearning@la.gov">digitallearning@la.gov</a> with your questions instead of Carol directly to expedite support.



#### **Teacher Leader Summit Registration**

Early Bird Registration is now open for 2024 Teacher Leader Summit.

This year's Teacher Leader Summit will focus on our ability to lead the next level of our Vision for Success.

- The Teacher Leader Summit will take place from May 28 May 30, 2024, at the New Orleans Ernest N. Morial Convention Center (NOENMCC).
- Early Bird Registration close February 2.
- Regular registration will be February 3 to March 15, or at sellout.



#### **Technology and Security Contacts**

Based on recent events it is even more important that we at the State have the correct information for all security contacts at **all** school systems. This includes:

- Name
- Title
- Work Phone
- Work Email
- Cell Phone Number

Please update your LEA's contact information <u>here</u> if you have not already done so.

#### Kami Update

As mentioned in our previous call, the LDOE will be providing access to the digital tool Kami at no cost to school systems. Kami will be available for all K-12 teachers and students in the 2024-2025 school year. The great news is we are on track and rolling out licenses as school systems' educational technology departments register.

- Onboarding and early adopters can begin setting up their district-wide Kami account by filling out the **LDOE Kami Intake Form**.
- Professional learning opportunities will be shared in future LDOE communications.
- Additional information about Kami and tutorials are now available on the Kami website.

