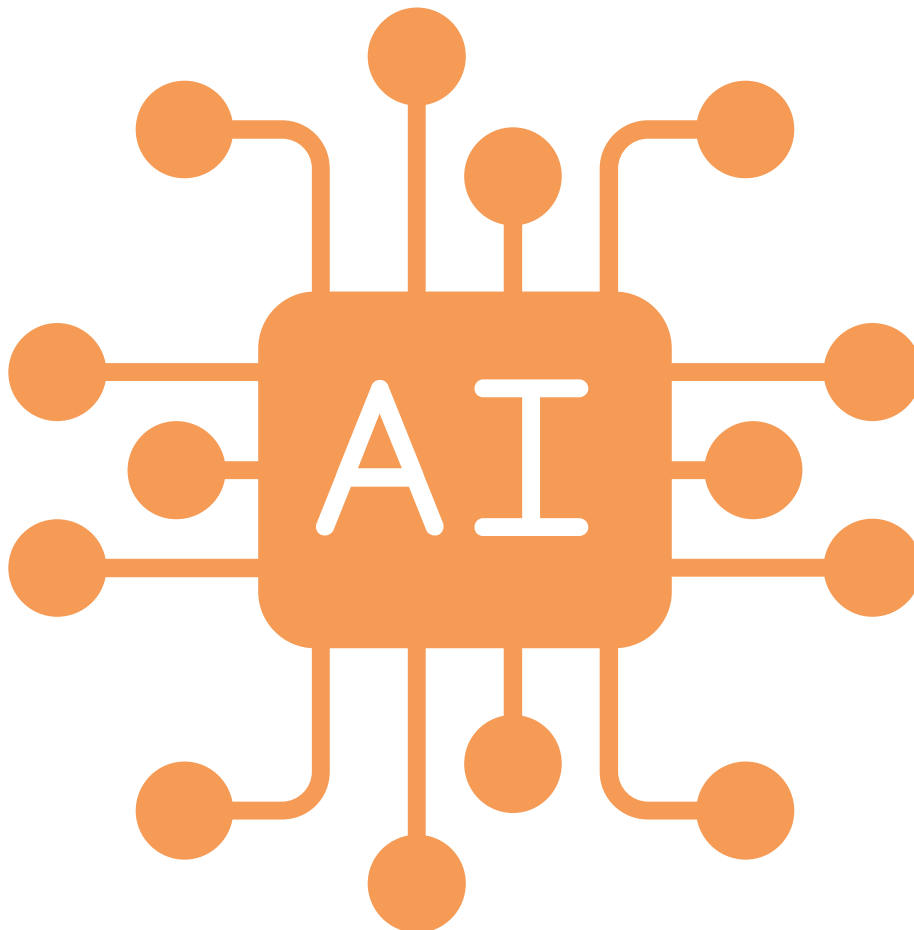


Guiding Principles for AI in MCPS

Introduction

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is transforming education by offering powerful tools that enhance learning, streamline operations, and prepare students for the future. Generative AI, a subset of AI, enables the generation of new content—such as text, images or audio—based on patterns it has learned from vast datasets. This technology introduces exciting opportunities but also brings challenges, such as managing biases, privacy concerns, and the risk of over-reliance on automated systems. As we adopt these innovative technologies, it is essential to strike a careful balance between their possibilities and risks. AI in education must not replace educators but rather empower them by automating routine tasks, allowing them to focus on students' unique needs. This document outlines our guiding principles to ensure that AI is deployed in a way that is ethical, transparent, and aligned with MCPS core values.



Guiding Principles for AI in MCPS

Core Values, Guiding Principles and Guiding Statements

1

All students can learn in order to pursue their dreams.

Leverage AI to empower every student to learn, fostering their unique potential and pathways to pursue their dreams.

1.1 Customized Learning Pathways:

AI should help tailor educational opportunities that empower students to pursue their unique goals and passions.

1.2 Goal-Oriented Learning:

Use AI to foster student ownership in learning by setting personalized goals, reflecting on progress, and adapting strategies to ensure success.

2

Schools are safe places of joy, wonder, and creativity.

Interactions with Generative AI should enhance the inclusivity and safety of the educational environment for all students and staff.

2.1 Safe and Secure Learning Environments:

AI systems must ensure the safety and security of students and staff by prioritizing data protection and creating supportive online learning spaces.

2.2 Promoting Creativity:

Leverage AI to inspire creative problem-solving and innovative thinking in students and educators.

3

Every person deserves to be loved, valued, and respected.

Interactions with Generative AI should promote equity, ensuring every student, staff member, and community member feels valued and respected in our schools.

3.1 Equitable AI Practices:

Promote and monitor the ethical use of AI to minimize bias, foster inclusivity, and provide all students and staff with fair opportunities to succeed.

3.2 Respectful Learning:

Use AI tools to honor individual differences, fostering a culture where every person is valued, respected, and supported in their unique learning journey.

Guiding Principles for AI in MCPS

Core Values, Guiding Principles and Guiding Statements

4 **Kindness is an essential skill of a responsible, productive community member.**

Interactions with Generative AI should reinforce the development of social-emotional skills, including kindness and empathy.

4.1 AI and Social-Emotional Learning:

Employ AI to support programs that teach kindness, empathy, and community engagement through responsible online behavior.

4.2 Building a Culture of Kindness:

Use AI to model and promote respectful interactions in digital and physical environments.

5 **The diversity of our community is one of our greatest strengths.**

Interactions with Generative AI should celebrate and enhance the diversity of our school community, supporting learning experiences that reflect diverse perspectives.

5.1 Inclusive Content Creation:

Use AI to generate educational materials that reflect our students' diverse cultural backgrounds, experiences, and strengths.

5.2 Removing Barriers:

Ensure AI is accessible to all, regardless of background, promoting diversity in thought, experience, and learning opportunities.

6 **All people deserve equitable access to opportunities and resources.**

Interactions with Generative AI should ensure equitable access to educational resources and opportunities for all students and staff.

6.1 Bridging Gaps:

Leverage AI data analytics to identify and address disparities, ensuring all students have the resources to succeed.

6.2 Equitable Resource Distribution:

Use AI to offer tailored resources that meet the diverse needs of students and staff across our division.

Guiding Principles for AI in MCPS

Core Values, Guiding Principles and Guiding Statements

7

Every Child deserves an advocate.

Interactions with Generative AI should create a community of advocacy by providing tools that enhance the ability to support individual learning needs.

7.1 AI as a Support Tool:

Leverage AI to build a community of advocacy by empowering educators with data-driven insights to identify students who need additional support and develop tailored interventions.

7.2 Enhancing Advocacy:

Employ AI to assist in creating personalized learning plans, ensuring educators have the tools and resources to champion every student's success within a supportive community.

8

Honoring the voices of students and other stakeholders strengthens the school community.

Implementations of Generative AI should be guided by the input and feedback of students, families, staff, and community.

8.1 Stakeholder Engagement:

Involve stakeholders in conversations around AI implementation, ensuring transparency and collaboration in decision-making.

8.2 Reflecting Community Voices:

AI initiatives should incorporate feedback from community members, fostering an environment of shared growth and understanding.

9

Open communication and feedback are vital to growth.

Interactions with Generative AI should support open communication and feedback.

9.1 Transparent Use of AI:

Foster open communication by clearly articulating how AI tools are used in educational settings, including their purposes and potential impact on teaching and learning outcomes.

9.2 Continuous Feedback Loop:

Create a culture of growth by using feedback from students, educators, and community members to regularly evaluate and refine AI tools, ensuring they effectively support the division's needs.

Guiding Principles for AI in MCPS

Core Values, Guiding Principles and Guiding Statements

10 **Learning and teaching are collective efforts that begin at birth and involve the entire community.**

Interactions with Generative AI should enhance community collaboration to create lifelong learning opportunities.

10.1 Community-Based Learning:

Leverage AI to strengthen community partnerships and integrate learning experiences that reflect the values and needs of the community.

10.2 Lifelong Learning with AI:

Position AI as a resource to support learning at every stage of life, from early childhood through adulthood, engaging the entire community in fostering growth and opportunity.

11 **Relationship building and high expectations are foundational to student success.**

Interactions with Generative AI should enhance teaching and learning by supporting relationship-building and maintaining high expectations, recognizing that human connections are essential to student success.

11.1 Fostering Relationships:

Use AI as a tool to support relationship building by providing educators with insights that deepen their understanding of each student's needs, strengths, and goals.

11.2 High Expectations for All:

Harness AI to reinforce high academic expectations, ensuring students are challenged and supported in a way that prioritizes their growth and fosters meaningful connections.

MCPS AI Literacy Goals

AI Literacy

AI literacy in K-12 education refers to equipping students and educators with the knowledge, skills, and mindset needed to understand, use, and critically evaluate artificial intelligence. It prepares students to navigate an AI-driven world responsibly, ethically, and effectively.

Basic AI Concepts

Understanding what AI is, how it works, and how it differs from traditional computing. Learning how AI relies on data, recognizing patterns, and understanding biases in AI decision-making.

Practical Applications

Exploring AI-powered tools (e.g., chatbots, image generators, recommendation systems) and their impact on daily life.

AI and Digital Citizenship

Encouraging responsible and ethical engagement with AI tools, including verifying information and respecting privacy.

AI & Future Careers

Introducing students to AI-related careers and how AI is shaping various industries.

Hands-on Learning

Engaging students in activities like using AI tools creatively, and critically analyzing AI-generated content.

AI Literacy Goals for the School Board

Understand AI's Role in Education & Operations

Gain foundational knowledge of AI and its impact on teaching, learning, and school operations. Stay informed about AI-driven tools used in classrooms and administrative functions.

Establish a Clear AI Vision & Policy Framework

Ensure AI policies guide the responsible and ethical use of AI in the district.

Ensure Ethical & Equitable AI Use

Advocate for AI implementations that promote equity, minimize bias, and support all students.

Support AI Literacy Initiatives for Stakeholders

Allocate resources for professional development to enhance AI literacy among educators, administrators, and students. Promote AI awareness and responsible usage among parents and the wider school community.

MCPS AI Literacy Goals

AI Literacy Goals for MCPS Division Leaders

Develop a Vision for AI Integration

Establish a strategic approach for ethical and effective AI use across the district.

Ensure Policy Alignment

Create and update policies to support responsible AI implementation in education. Ensure AI initiatives align with educational goals, equity, and student data privacy regulations.

Support Professional Learning

Provide resources and training for school leaders and instructional staff to enhance AI literacy.

Foster Equity & Ethical Use

Promote AI applications that minimize bias and support diverse student needs.

Evaluate AI's Impact

Continuously assess the effectiveness of AI tools in improving educational outcomes.

AI Literacy Goals for School Leaders

Understand AI's Role in Education

Gain foundational knowledge of AI and its applications in teaching, learning, and operations.

Support Teacher Development

Provide guidance and professional development for educators to integrate AI responsibly.

Encourage Ethical AI Use

Establish school-wide guidelines to ensure AI is used ethically and equitably.

Foster a Culture of Innovation

Encourage experimentation with AI tools while ensuring alignment with curriculum goals.

Monitor & Evaluate AI Tools

Assess AI's effectiveness in supporting student learning and operational efficiency.

AI Literacy Goals for Instructional Staff

Develop AI Understanding & Skills

Learn how AI works, its capabilities, and limitations in an educational setting.

MCPS AI Literacy Goals

Use AI to Enhance Teaching

Integrate AI tools to personalize instruction, automate tasks, and support student engagement.

Teach AI Literacy to Students

Help students develop critical thinking skills to evaluate and use AI responsibly.

Address AI Ethics & Bias

Guide students in understanding AI bias, misinformation, and responsible digital citizenship.

Stay Informed on AI Trends

Continuously learn about new AI developments and best practices in education.

AI Literacy Goals for Students

Understand AI Basics

Learn what AI is, how it works, and how it impacts everyday life.

Develop Critical Thinking

Recognize AI-generated content, biases, and ethical concerns in AI applications.

Use AI Responsibly

Engage with AI tools ethically, respecting privacy, academic integrity, and responsible use guidelines.

Explore AI & Future Careers

Understand how AI is shaping different industries and career opportunities.

Engage in Hands-On AI Learning

Participate in coding activities, AI-driven projects, and creative AI applications.

AI Literacy Goals for Non-Instructional Staff

Understand AI's Impact on Education

Learn how AI is being used in schools and its role in operations and learning.

Use AI for Efficiency

Leverage AI tools to streamline administrative tasks and improve workflow.

Ensure Ethical AI Use

Follow best practices for data privacy, security, and responsible AI interactions.

Support AI-Driven Decision Making

Use AI-generated insights to improve school operations and student support services.

MCPS AI Literacy Goals

Stay Informed on AI Developments

Keep up with AI trends relevant to school administration and support roles.

AI Literacy Goals for Community Members

Understand AI Basics

Define AI, its core components, and how it works.

Recognize AI In Daily Life

Identify AI's presence in everyday tools (e.g., voice assistants, social media algorithms, shopping recommendations) and its impact on careers.

Use AI Responsibly

Create and awareness of how AI is used by students, staff, and administrators in schools.

MCPS AI Literacy Timeline

AI Literacy research training and preparation by Instructional Technology Team

Summer/Fall 2023

AI Literacy workshops with division leadership team

Spring 2024

AI Literacy workshops with school leadership teams

AI Literacy workshops with instructional staff

Communication with community members

Summer 2025

School Year 25-26
Quarter 1

AI Literacy workshops with students
AI Literacy Communication and workshops for families

AI Literacy workshops with non-instructional staff

School Year 25-26
Quarter 2

School Year 25-26
Quarter 3

Ongoing AI Literacy workshops for staff and students

School Year 25-26
Quarter 4



Montgomery County
Public Schools