
ACCESSIBILITY

AI ACCESSIBILITY & INCLUSIVE LEARNING FRAMEWORK

This document outlines a strategic framework for the responsible and effective integration of Artificial Intelligence (AI) in education, aligned with Westminster Public Schools' AI Guiding Principles and Competency-Based Education (CBE) model. The goal is to ensure AI supports all learners, particularly those requiring accessibility accommodations and multilingual support. Accessibility means removing barriers to learning. The WPS Integrated Services Model includes Universal Design for Learning (UDL) as one of the key components, and AI tools are a critical means to implement Universal Design. UDL aims to change the design of the environment rather than to situate the problem as a perceived deficit within the learner. When environments are intentionally designed to reduce barriers, every learner can engage in rigorous, meaningful learning.

ESSENTIAL GUIDELINES OF AI ACCESSIBILITY

Compliance and Security

- Ensure AI tools comply with FERPA, COPPA, Section 504, and IDEA.
- Implement strict data privacy protocols to protect student and staff information.
- Regularly assess AI security risks and mitigate vulnerabilities.

Transparency, Inclusivity and Engagement

- Maintain transparency on AI decision-making and its impact on learning.
- Ensure AI tools are accessible to students with disabilities and multilingual learners.
- Engage educators, students, and families in AI implementation decisions (i.e., discuss the use of these tools at IEP meetings and how they will remove barriers to learning based on the individual student needs).

Personalized Learning and Professional Development

- Use AI to create personalized learning pathways aligned with CBE.
- Provide ongoing training for staff on ethical and effective AI use; ensure students are also taught how to utilize AI tools.
- Pilot AI tools with measurable student outcomes before full implementation.

Ethics and Adaptability

- Regularly review AI policies to address bias, cultural responsiveness, and fairness.
- Ensure AI tools complement human instruction, rather than replace it.
- Monitor AI's impact to avoid unintended consequences.

Enhancing Productivity

- Use AI to streamline administrative tasks, freeing up educators for student engagement.
- Support AI-powered multilingual communication for parents and students.
- Leverage AI analytics to enhance data-driven decision-making.