

Artificial Intelligence in Our Schools: A Guide for Families

Our district is committed to preparing students for a changing world. We believe Artificial Intelligence (AI) can be a powerful tool for learning, but it will never replace the essential role of our teachers.

Our goal is to use AI to support student growth while ensuring that **humans stay in control**.

How AI Supports Learning

- **For Teachers:** AI helps create personalized lesson plans and adapts materials for different ability levels. This gives teachers more time to focus on your child's individual needs.
- **For Students:** AI acts as a learning "partner." It can provide real-time translation for English learners, create custom study guides, and offer extra tutoring help.

Safety and Responsibility

To keep our classrooms fair and focused on real learning, we follow a **"Human-in-the-Loop"** policy:

- **Teacher Approval:** Students may only use AI for schoolwork if their teacher gives explicit permission for that specific assignment.
- **The 0–4 Usage Scale:** Teachers use a simple scale (Level 0 to Level 4) to tell students exactly how much AI assistance is allowed, if any.
- **Human Double-Check:** AI can make mistakes or show bias. We teach students that they are responsible for their work—they must fact-check everything AI produces using trusted sources.
- **Privacy & Ethics:** We follow strict federal laws (like FERPA and COPPA) to protect your child's data. Using AI for bullying, cheating, or creating fake images is strictly prohibited.

Honesty and Credit

If a student uses AI with their teacher's permission, they must cite it clearly (just like they would a book or a website). This ensures that students stay responsible for their own original ideas and work.

AI in the Classroom: Frequently Asked Questions

Data Privacy & Safety

How is my child's personal information protected? Our district only uses AI tools that meet strict federal privacy standards, including FERPA (which protects student records) and COPPA (which protects children under 13). We have "Data Privacy Agreements" with our approved vendors that legally prevent them from selling student data or using it for advertising.

Does the AI "learn" from my child's work? On district-approved platforms, student work is kept in a "closed loop." This means the AI uses the work to provide feedback to the student, but it is not used to train the general AI model for the public. Your child's ideas and writing stay private to the district.

What happens if my child uses an unapproved AI tool? We strongly discourage using personal AI accounts for schoolwork. Public AI tools often collect data for marketing or training purposes. For your child's protection, they should only use the specific tools provided and authorized by their teachers.

Grading & Feedback

Is an AI grading my child's assignments? No. In our district, teachers are the sole authority on grades. While a teacher might use AI to help scan for common mistakes or generate a "first draft" of feedback, a human educator reviews every score. Think of AI as a teaching assistant that helps the teacher provide feedback faster, but the teacher always makes the final call.

Will my child be penalized if an "AI Detector" says they used AI? We know that AI detectors are not 100% accurate. Our district does not rely on these tools alone to determine if a student has used AI. Instead, teachers look at a student's progress, their unique "voice," and their ability to explain their work in person. If there is a concern, the teacher will have a conversation with the student and family.

Can AI help my child get a better grade? AI is intended to be a learning partner, not a shortcut. When used at the correct "Usage Level" (as defined by the teacher), AI can help students brainstorm, organize their thoughts, or understand complex topics—all of which can lead to better learning outcomes and stronger grades through authentic effort.