# EdTech Balance & AI in CSD

Dr. Jennifer Burton
Assistant Superintendent of
Teaching and Learning

August 11, 2026
Regular Board Meeting

# EdTech in the News

EDUCATION

## These Georgia school districts are curbing classroom screen time

Atlanta Public Schools and Marietta City Schools are both considering measures that would limit the amount of time students spend on electronic devices in class.

Technology & Privacy

## Elementary School Screen Time Limits Gain Momentum in 2026

April 8, 2026 | Abbie Telgenhof

CLASSROOM TECHNOLOGY

## How Teachers Are Tackling the 'Techlash'

By Jennifer Vilcarino — July 16, 2026 1 min read

## Marietta City School Board Sets District Vision for Screens, Technology, and AI

Digital Learning Tools

## Not all screen time is equal

Dr. Carolyn Brown, WordFlight
July 20, 2026
Screen time debates should center on whether or not individual technologies, programs, and digital learning experiences are supporting student growth and achievement

## Atlanta Public Schools considers new limits on classroom screen time

By FOX 5 Atlanta Digital Team | Atlanta Public Schools | Published July 2, 2026 8:30 AM EDT

EDUCATOR VOICES

## How Much Screen Time Belongs in the School Day?

In July 2026, 37 K–12 classroom teachers in the First Step Advisors Education Network responded to a survey about classroom screen use. More than half, 53%, said they are actively trying to reduce screen time.

PBS News Hour

## Why school districts are limiting screen time for students

Season 2026 Episode 132 | 6m 05s

The nation's second-largest school district imposed strict new limits on screen time for its roughly 400,000 students. The Los Angeles Unified School District policy is the latest...

# Timeline

**January 2026-April 2026**

- Student Board Representative conducted multi-district policy research
- Gathered quantitative and qualitative student data via surveys and focus groups.

**May 2026**

- Presented AI student feedback to the Board
- Gathered feedback on draft EdTech guidelines with Principals and discussed EdTech with Teacher Advisory Council

**June 2026**

- AI Guiding Principles and EdTech Balance training conducted during the AdStaff retreat with all district leadership

**July 2026**

- EdTech Balance training for instructional leaders
- Community-wide Back to School communication regarding EdTech Balance
- Teacher professional learning on EdTech Balance.

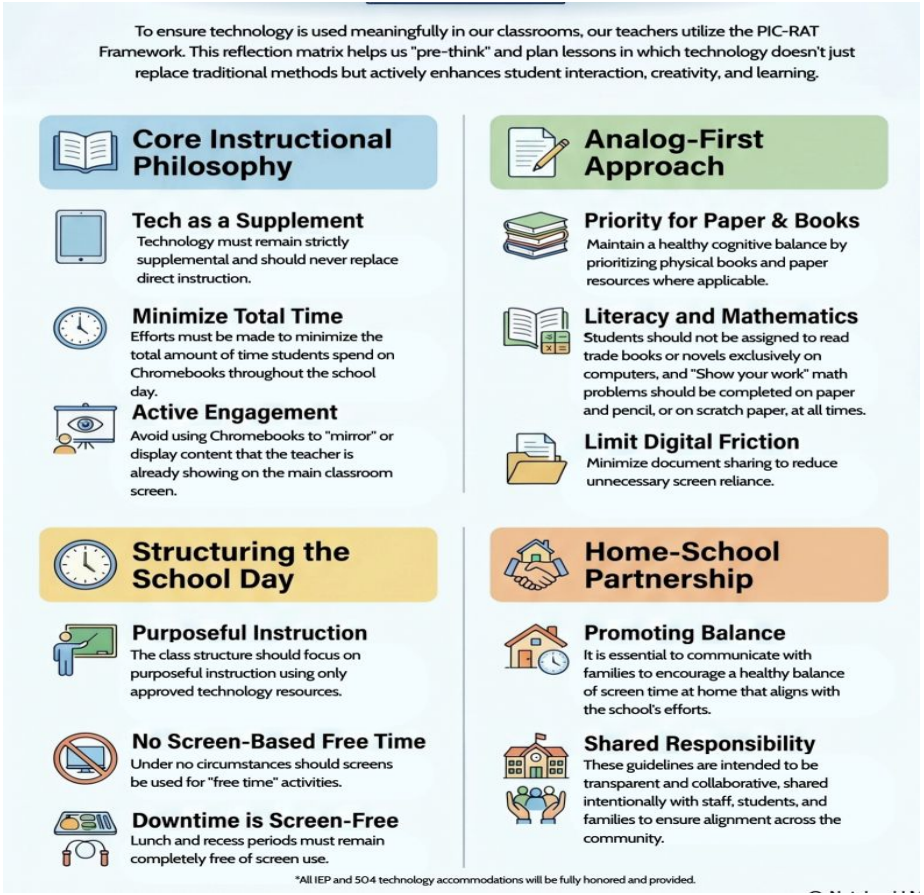
**August 2026**

- Formal EdTech Balance framework presentation to the Board and baseline screen time data collection.

**First Semester**

- Implementation of EdTech Balance guidelines into daily instruction in partnership with teachers and school leaders.

# EdTech Balance




Technology is always a supplement.

Free time on screens is not permitted.

Limit mirroring on chromebooks.

Student email access changes

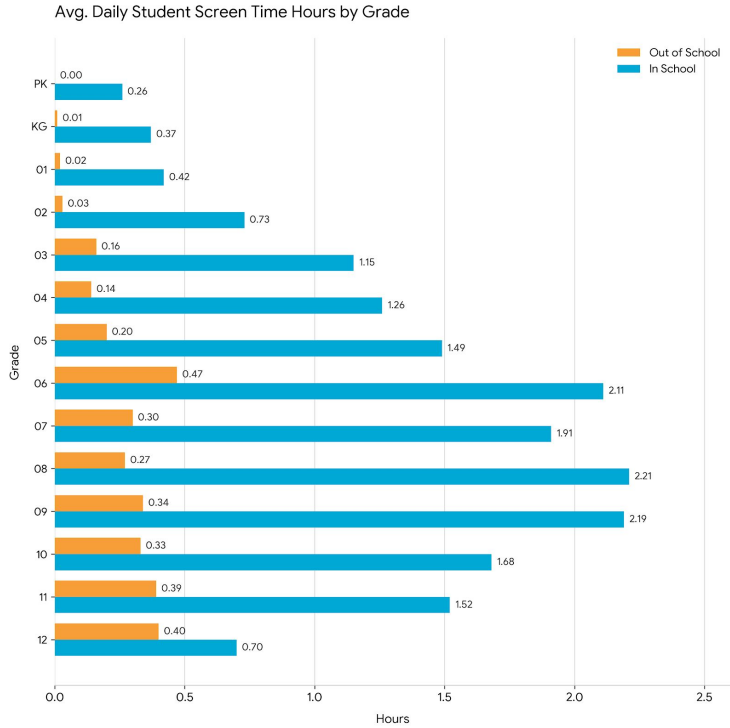
- Grades K-5~ Zero Email Access
- Grades 6-8 ~ Internal Only
- Grades 9-12~ Standard Access

# Lightspeed Insights & Classroom

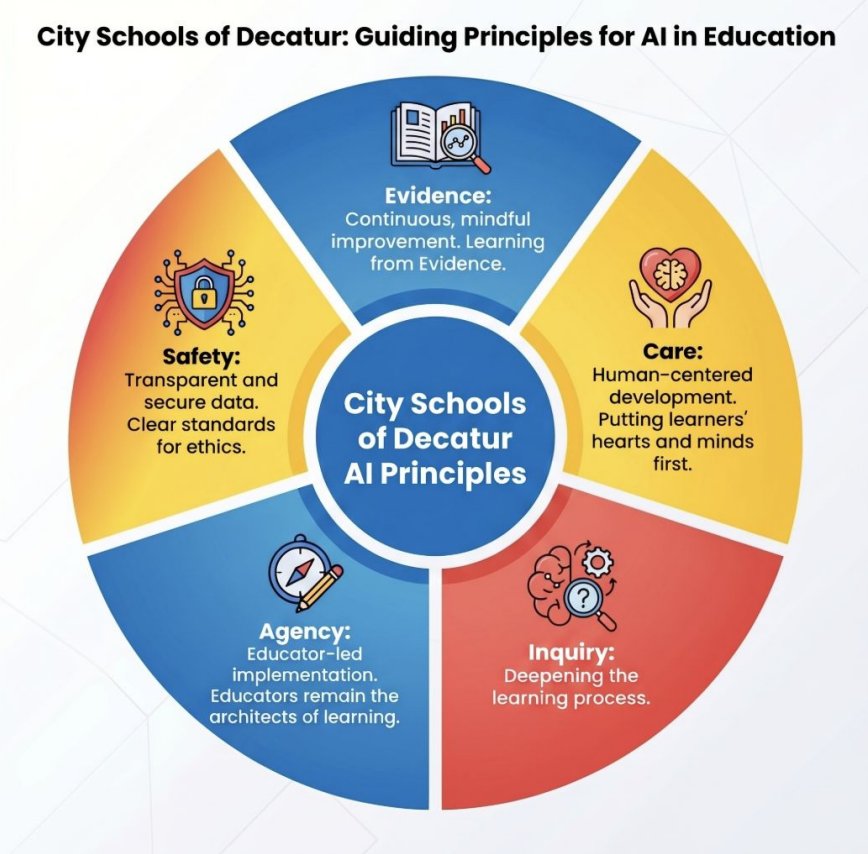
## Lightspeed Classroom

- Expanding to grades 3rd - 5th.
- Teachers can temporarily grant access to a restricted but safe site when needed for instructional purposes.
- Training for Upper Elementary Lightspeed will occur in the first few months of the school year.

## Lightspeed Insights



# AI Guiding Principles




## For Teachers Use

Gemini

Google Workspace

## For Student Optional Use

Knowt

# Student Senators Experience

**Zoe Smith**
Georgia Student Senator

**Tristen Lewis**
Georgia Student Senator

## State Representation at the Edward M. Kennedy Institute for the United States Senate

Selected as two student senators representing our state among student delegates nationwide in Boston. Organized committee meetings across four primary educational stakeholder subgroups: Students, Teachers, Administration, and Parents

## Highlights

Meeting youth from all over the US to discuss AI.

Creating Amendments such as having proportional funding for school districts to install a specialized enterprise AI that protects student data, providing AI Literacy courses for children and implementing lessons about AI in the classroom.

Learning the importance of consistency and early access when teaching AI literacy, and the consequences of poor regulation and implementation.

# Student Senators Top Takeaways

The Student Senators passed the "STUDENTS FIRST Act of 2026" with a vote of 82-16. This has been sent to 10,000 district leaders, the framework gives school boards a student-tested perspective on how young people actually interact with AI and what safeguards they want.

## Student recommendations:

- Asynchronous AI Literacy course for staff before opening of school each year.
- Student lessons about responsible AI usage should start to be implemented in the classroom starting in the 3rd grade.
- AI program such as Knowt & AI should be opened for High School students with guardrails
- Teachers also need guardrails with AI in grading & teaching for consistency

# Next Steps

- Implement EdTech Balance guidelines in schools
- Communicate classroom technology used via school newsletter or course syllabi
- Monitor screen time usage by school, grade level, and student
- Collaborate with Superintendent advisory councils on EdTech Balance problem of practice
- Teacher AI Accelerator cohort begins in September with each school having at least one teacher representative
- Quarterly parent information sessions: Tea with Tech
- Principal coffee chats on technology specifics in their school
    - BHMS August 27 4:30-5:30

# Questions?