TECHNOLOGY & DATA PRIVACY ADVISORY COMMITTEE (TDPAC)

May 21, 2026 - 6:00–7:30 pm

Ed Center – Conf. Room 4E

MINUTES

ATTENDEES:

~~Strikethrough~~ indicates NOT in attendance

Eliza Buhrer	Erin Norton	Jeremy Felker
Jason Livingston	Bryon Thornburgh	~~Becky Shorey~~
~~Phil Romig III~~	Fred Tarabay	~~Floy Jaffares~~
Emily Sullivan	Sean McDermid	~~Brett Adams~~
Jill Ibeck	Scott Schafer	~~Carol Eaton~~
~~President Michelle Applegate~~	Alison Stafford	Ryan Miller
Hilary Young	John Hax	Elizabeth Mehmen
Kara Zucker	Michael Wright	Lenora Plimpton
~~Marc Long~~	Keel Ross	

Agenda Highlights

- Welcome, Introductions, and Committee Member Updates
- Board of Education Presentation Recap
- TDPAC Charter Review and Future Direction
- Technology Evolution Exercise (2014–2026)
- AI, Device Use, and Screen Time Updates
- K–5 Screen Time Project Progress
- 2026–2027 Committee Focus Areas

Introductions and Logistics

CIO **Jill Ibeck** welcomed members to the first meeting of the 2026–2027 school year and introduced new committee members. Participants shared their affiliations with Jeffco, professional backgrounds, and areas of interest for the coming year.

Several members expressed strong interest in:

- Artificial Intelligence and its impact on education
- Student learning and technology integration
- Digital citizenship and data privacy
- Classroom technology effectiveness
- Community engagement and providing parent feedback

Committee members represented a broad range of professional expertise, including software engineering, cybersecurity, data science, higher education, digital marketing, federal IT leadership, product development, and educational technology.

Board of Education Presentation Recap

Chris Linton provided an overview of the presentation to the June Board of Education was presented by TDPAC representatives following the May committee meeting.

Topics shared with the Board included:

- Cell phone policy work completed during the 2025–2026 school year
- Student screen time discussions and recommendations
- Technology usage trends across the district
- The need to review and modernize the committee charter originally developed in 2014

Board members were receptive to revisiting the TDPAC charter and encouraged the committee to provide recommendations regarding updates and future focus areas.

Board President **Michelle Applegate** continues to serve as the Board liaison for the committee and provides ongoing connection between TDPAC discussions and Board priorities.

Cell Phone Policy and Social Media Updates

Cell Phone Policy -

Sean McDermid reported that the district-wide cell phone policy developed through stakeholder engagement and committee input was adopted by the Board as written.

Key provisions include:

- Bell-to-bell restrictions for students in grades K–8.
- High school students may access cell phones during passing periods but not during instructional time.
- Policy alignment with practices being implemented in districts across Colorado.

Social Media Access –

Student Technology Services completed implementation of the district's social media filtering initiative for all grade levels.

Highlights included:

- Three years of planning, stakeholder review, and implementation work.
- Social media filtering now extends through grades K–12.
- Schools were provided the ability to opt out if necessary.
- No schools elected to opt out.
- Limited feedback was received following implementation.
- Pinterest remains available for instructional purposes in select classroom settings.
  Staff noted this as a significant milestone resulting from several years of work and community feedback.

TDPAC History and Charter Background

Origins of TDPAC –

Jeremy Felker provided a historical overview of the committee.

Key historical milestones included:

- The committee originated following the national discussion surrounding the **InBloom** student data initiative.
- Concerns regarding cloud storage, student data privacy, third-party access, and transparency generated significant public interest.
- In response to community concerns and Board direction, Jeffco developed the Technology & Data Privacy Advisory Committee in 2014.
- The purpose was to provide parent, community, and technical expertise regarding:
  - Student data privacy

- Technology governance
- Security practices
- Emerging technologies

Members discussed how many of the same themes present in 2014 continue to exist today, particularly around privacy, security, trust, and transparency.

Staff noted strong parallels between historical concerns regarding cloud computing and today's conversations surrounding artificial intelligence.

Technology Evolution Exercise

Committee members participated in a collaborative review of four significant technology eras within Jeffco Schools.

2014–2017: Foundational Era

Topics discussed included:

- Shared laptop and iPad carts
- Bring Your Own Device (BYOD) initiatives
- Classroom SmartBoards
- Growing awareness of student data privacy
- Technology equity challenges

Advantages identified:

- Increased classroom technology access
- Growing availability of digital instructional tools
- Early access to student performance data

Challenges identified:

- Equity concerns between schools
- Infrastructure limitations
- Increasing technology costs
- Emerging privacy and security concerns

2018–2019: Learning Era

Topics included:

- Phase I Chromebook deployment
- Adoption of Google Workspace
- Expanded digital learning management systems

Advantages identified:

- Greater student access to devices
- Increased opportunities for digital learning
- Growth in digital citizenship skills

Challenges identified:

- Significant implementation and support costs
- Network and infrastructure demands
- Balancing district-provided devices with personal devices

2020–2021: Emergency Distance Learning Era

Discussion focused on:

- Remote instruction during COVID-19
- Rapid one-to-one Chromebook distribution
- Hotspot deployment
- Expansion of video conferencing and online collaboration tools

Advantages identified:

- Accelerated technology innovation
- Increased family familiarity with technology tools

- Expanded digital access for students

Challenges identified:

- Learning loss
- Social and emotional impacts
- Technology fatigue
- Inequities in connectivity and home learning environments

2022–2026: AI and Integration Era

Discussion centered on:

- Artificial Intelligence
- Classroom technology integration
- Increased use of assistive technology
- Digital learning embedded within curriculum

Benefits identified:

- Improved access to information
- Personalized learning opportunities
- Expanded accessibility supports

Concerns identified:

- Academic integrity
- Reliability and accuracy of AI-generated content
- Overreliance on technology
- Cognitive offloading and diminished critical thinking skills
- Student and staff AI literacy

Members observed that while technology evolves rapidly, fundamental concerns around privacy, equity, security, and student success remain consistent across all eras.

Charter Review Process

Staff introduced a review of the original 2014 TDPAC Charter.

Members discussed:

- The continued relevance of the committee's purpose.
- Updating language to reflect current technology realities.
- Ensuring the charter remains flexible for future technologies.
- Clarifying the advisory role of the committee.

The committee agreed to review the charter asynchronously and submit recommendations through a shared document.

Action Items:

- Committee members will review the charter and submit recommendations by **October 1, 2026**.
- Staff will compile feedback and present a revised draft at a future meeting.

AI Discussion

Members engaged in extensive discussion surrounding AI use in education.

Topics included:

- Student use of AI tools
- Teacher use of AI-supported instructional resources
- Organizational use of AI
- Academic integrity concerns
- AI literacy and critical thinking
- Governance and policy considerations

Sean McDermid shared the following updates:

- Google Gemini is available to students in grades 6–12.
- Major public AI platforms remain restricted on student networks.
- Some approved educational platforms contain AI-supported features for elementary students.
- The district does not currently utilize AI detection tools due to concerns regarding reliability and false positives.
- Existing academic integrity and technology-use policies have been updated to address AI-related concerns.

Members expressed interest in deeper exploration of AI governance and possible future advisory recommendations.

K-5 Screen Time and Device Use Project Update

Staff provided an update on the ongoing K–5 Screen Time and Device Use Study.

Progress to Date

Engagement activities have included:

- Teacher focus groups
- Parent workshops
- Parent advisory meetings
- Student panels
- Classroom observations
- Research reviews

Themes emerging from stakeholder input include:

- Technology should be used intentionally and purposefully.
- Technology should support learning rather than replace essential instructional experiences.
- Classroom technology decisions should be research-based.
- Screen time discussions should focus on educational value rather than time alone.

Next Steps

- Continue stakeholder listening through fall 2026.
- Develop draft recommendations through winter 2026–2027.
- Conduct community review sessions and prototype testing.
- Deliver final recommendations to district leadership in spring 2027.

Staff emphasized that the project seeks recommendations grounded in community voice, educational research, and instructional best practices.

2026-2027 Committee Focus Areas

The committee reaffirmed three primary areas of focus for the current year:

1. **Artificial Intelligence**
    - Student use
    - Teacher use
    - Organizational use
    - Governance and policy considerations
2. **Student Data Privacy**
    - Security practices
    - Privacy protections
    - Emerging technology implications
3. **Digital Efficacy and Screen Time**
    - Developmentally appropriate technology use

    - Research-based instructional practices
    - Student outcomes

Members discussed the possibility of future subcommittee structures to support more focused work in each area.

Action Items

- Members to review and provide Charter feedback by **October 1, 2026**.
- Elizabeth and Ryan to review and distribute Charter Review and supporting materials by **October 13, 2026**
- Student Technology Services to provide opportunities for committee participation in K–5 Screen Time Project workgroups.
- Members encouraged to review district AI resources available at **Jeffco.ai** prior to the next meeting.

Upcoming Dates

- **December 9, 2026:** TDPAC presentation to the Board of Education
- **December 10, 2026:** Second Quarterly TDPAC meeting of the 2026/2027 school year.