Position on Generative Artificial Intelligence

Position Statement

The district recognizes the promise and potential of generative AI tools. AI tools should be used to support learning, not undermine it. The use of AI tools is subject to the same confidentiality considerations and data security best practices as those referred to in the district's Acceptable Use Policy.

The following statements are intended to establish the foundation for AI use.

1. AI Literacy
    a. AI is a reality students will encounter throughout their lives. The district prepares students to use AI responsibly and ethically, aligning with the Profile of the South Carolina Graduate.
2. Teacher Effectiveness
    a. AI implementation supports educators by reducing time spent on administrative tasks, amplifying their expertise, and supporting best practices such as differentiation and adjusting based on student needs and interests.
3. Augmentation, Not Replacement
    a. AI should enhance human thinking, creativity, and critical problem-solving, not replace them.
4. Ethical Decision-Making
    a. AI literacy includes understanding when to use AI, when not to, and how to use it responsibly. This extends beyond the school to prepare students to be ethical digital citizens. Staff and students are responsible for the accuracy of any content generated by AI. Because AI can produce 'hallucinations' (plausible-sounding but false information), staff and students must verify AI-generated facts, citations, and data against reliable primary sources.
5. Data Privacy and Confidential Information
    a. The use of AI tools is subject to the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, the Children's Online Privacy Protection Act, and district policies related to data privacy and security. Staff and students shall not input confidential student data, health records, or personally identifiable information (PII) into generative AI prompts, as these inputs may be used to train public models outside of district control.
6. Authorized Tools
    a. The district maintains a list of approved tools and applications. Tools and applications are evaluated to protect the privacy of staff and student records, comply with parental consent requirements, ensure age-appropriateness, and align with curriculum goals and standards.
7. Appropriate Usage
    a. Teachers will clarify if, when, and how AI tools should be used in their classrooms. Teachers, students, and staff are expected to employ AI tools solely for educational purposes, upholding values of respect, inclusivity, and academic integrity at all times. The district requires transparency in AI use. Submitting AI-generated content as one's

own original work without authorization or attribution is considered academic misconduct, similar to plagiarism. Students must disclose when AI is used in the creation of an assignment, following the specific citation guidelines (e.g., MLA or APA) provided by the instructor.

In conclusion, Fort Mill School District recognizes the potential benefits of AI in classroom instruction. The district also recognizes the challenges of implementing these tools responsibly and making sure they are used to help meet educational goals. While AI can suggest and generate, humans remain the final authority and are ultimately accountable for the work they submit and the decisions they make. As always, the goal is to educate students and prepare them to be college and career-ready.

AI Collaboration Disclosure

This position on generative artificial intelligence document was developed through a collaborative process between AI for Education, the Fort Mill School District AI Committee, Claude.ai, ChatGPT, and Google Gemini.