

Instruction

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

6141.3273(a)

The Fairfield Board of Education (the "Board") is committed to an educational environment that provides students with meaningful learning experiences that prioritize exposure to rich content, and the development of critical thinking through effective educational practices while emphasizing responsible, ethical, and equitable use of technology.

This policy establishes guidelines for the use of district-approved "Generative Artificial Intelligence" to balance educational value with appropriate regulation and to ensure it aligns with established instructional goals, while grounding our students in the values of integrity and responsible citizenship. Technology can support educational experiences, but it should not replace the valuable intellectual work of students and teachers.

I. DEFINITIONS

A. Non-generative Artificial Intelligence

Traditional AI systems refer to a technology system capable of analyzing, classifying, or processing data without creating new content.

B. Generative Artificial Intelligence

For the purposes of this policy, "Generative Artificial Intelligence" (AI) refers to a technology system capable of learning patterns and relationships from data, enabling it to create content, including but not limited to text, images, audio, or video, when prompted by a user.

II. GENERAL PROVISIONS

A. Educational Purpose

The Board is committed to providing our students with the most appropriate and effective educational experiences to foster high levels of learning and opportunities for self-expression. As our schools prepare students for a future that demands adaptability, critical thinking, and digital literacy, we recognize the risk that, if not implemented with care, AI could harm students' creative, cognitive, and critical thinking skills.

All staff will set clear and explicit expectations for the use of AI in their classes in accordance with the Administrative Regulations (6141.3273 AR), ensuring that AI does not replace student learning or become the sole-source of teacher feedback and/or grading.

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B. Responsible and Ethical Use

As with all technologies, users must be mindful of and adhere to all considerations ensuring responsible and ethical use, especially as it relates to:

- Mitigating bias and misinformation
- Avoiding plagiarism and the appropriation of artificially created or modified content as original work
- Ensuring academic integrity
- Maintaining and ensuring student privacy
- Promoting transparency
- Ensuring the appropriate educational use of AI in our schools.

C. Educational Philosophy

The Board affirms that AI tools should not replace the effort students put into learning. AI may be used to facilitate learning, not to complete tasks in place of developing essential knowledge and skills. Our ultimate goal is for students to become lifelong learners, responsible citizens, and successful participants in an ever-changing global society.

D. Prohibited Use

The Board affirms its commitment to recognize and mitigate the potential risks associated with AI usage. The following use is prohibited:

- Entering personal, confidential, or proprietary information into AI tools
- Submitting AI-generated content without teacher permission and proper citation
- Using AI to create or modify content in an inappropriate or harmful manner

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III. PRIVACY, SECURITY, AND VENDOR EVALUATION

A. Compliance with Federal and State Privacy Laws

The Board is committed to safeguarding the privacy and security of all student and staff data. All use of AI tools within the District shall comply with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), the Connecticut Student Data Privacy Act (C.G.S. § 10-234aa et seq.), and any other applicable privacy laws and regulations. No AI tool shall be used in a manner that compromises the confidentiality of personally identifiable information (PII) contained in student education records, and users are prohibited from entering student PII into any AI tool that has not been formally approved by the District.

B. Vendor Evaluation and Approval

No AI tool that processes, stores, or has access to student or staff data shall be deployed without prior review and approval by the Director of Information Technology or designee. Prior to approval, vendors must demonstrate compliance with FERPA, COPPA, and the Connecticut Student Data Privacy Act, and must execute appropriate data privacy agreements. Vendors shall provide documentation of their data security practices, including encryption standards, breach notification procedures, data retention and deletion policies, and confirmation that student data will not be sold, used for targeted advertising, or used to train AI models.

C. Bias and Fairness Mitigation

Vendors must disclose efforts to identify, mitigate, and monitor biases in their AI models and provide mechanisms for educators and administrators to flag and report potential bias or inequitable outcomes. AI tools shall not produce outputs that discriminate against or disproportionately impact students based on race, gender, disability, socioeconomic status, or other protected characteristics.

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D. Ongoing Monitoring

Approved AI vendors shall be subject to periodic review to ensure continued compliance with District policies and applicable laws. Vendors must notify the District of material changes to their product, terms of service, policies, or data handling practices. The District reserves the right to revoke approval and discontinue use of any AI tool that fails to maintain compliance.

IV. BOARD COMMITMENT

While ensuring the responsible use for those interacting with generative AI technologies, the Board underscores its commitment to fostering a dynamic and engaging learning environment that leverages the appropriate use of AI to support student learning outcomes and equip students with the skills and dispositions needed for success in the digital age.

(cf. 5131.00-Student Discipline Code)

(cf. 5131.81-Use of Technological Devices)

(cf. 6141.321-Student Internet Use)

Adopted: 5/12/2026