

STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

This policy outlines the expectations for student use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) tools within the school district. It is designed to promote responsible, ethical, and academically honest practices while leveraging AI to enhance learning and prepare students for a future where AI is prevalent. The goal is for AI to support and enhance human intelligence and learning, not replace it or facilitate academic dishonesty.

Definitions

Artificial Intelligence (AI): A branch of computer science focused on building machines and software capable of performing tasks that usually require human intelligence, such as learning, reasoning, solving problems, understanding language, and interpreting sensory inputs. AI systems use algorithms and models to analyze data, identify patterns, and make decisions or predictions with minimal human input.

Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI): A type of AI that creates new content, such as text, audio, video, images, or code, using machine learning models. Unlike traditional AI, which focuses on recognizing patterns or classifying data, generative AI produces outputs that mimic human-created content.

AI Tools: Software applications and platforms that utilize AI technologies to perform specific tasks and solve problems that typically require human intelligence. This might include generative AI tools (e.g., Gemini, ChatGPT, DALL-E), AI-powered learning platforms, or other applications that use AI.

Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Information that can be used to identify a specific individual.

Guiding Principles

Learning Enhancement: AI is a tool to support student learning, creativity, and problem-solving, not to replace genuine effort or original thought.

Academic Integrity: Students must maintain honesty and integrity in their work, ensuring that any AI-assisted work genuinely represents their comprehension and effort.

Transparency and Disclosure: Students must be transparent about their use of AI tools in academic work, acknowledging when and how AI has assisted them.

Data Privacy and Security: Students must protect their own and others' personal information when using AI tools, understanding the importance of privacy safeguards.

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Ethical Use: Students should use AI tools responsibly, avoiding harmful, misleading, or inappropriate content or actions.

Authorized Use: Students should use AI tools only when permitted and as instructed by their teachers.

Permitted Uses by Students

Students may be permitted to use AI tools to support their learning and creativity, as directed by their teacher and in accordance with specific assignment guidelines. Specific acceptable uses may vary by grade level, subject, and assignment. Discretion and determination for use of AI tools can be limited further by the classroom teacher as well.

Acceptable uses may include, but are not limited to:

- Researching topics and gathering information.
- Brainstorming ideas, outlining projects, or generating creative prompts.
- Getting feedback on writing, grammar, style, or problem-solving strategies.
- Using AI-powered accessibility tools like text-to-speech or translation.
- Participating in educator-approved AI-based learning activities.
- Creating presentations, graphics, or multimedia content with AI support.
- Simulating real-world scenarios or exploring concepts in subjects like Math, Science, or Social Studies.
- Receiving personalized academic support or tutoring.
- Developing coding skills or exploring AI literacy concepts.

Prohibited Uses by Students

The following uses of AI tools are considered inappropriate and a breach of academic integrity or the district's Code of Student Conduct:

Plagiarism: Submitting AI-generated work as one's own without proper attribution, citation, or attempting to represent AI-generated content as original work.

Cheating: Using AI to complete assignments, assessments, or tests without explicit permission from the teacher, including outside the parameters set by the teacher.

Sharing Personally Identifiable Information (PII): Inputting student or staff PII into public or unsecured AI tools or platforms.

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Creating or Spreading Harmful Content: Using AI to generate or share misinformation, discriminatory content, or content intended to harass, bully, or intimidate others.

Disruption: Misusing AI tools to disrupt the classroom environment or hinder others' learning.

Invasion of Privacy: Using AI to collect, share, or manipulate personal data without consent.

Circumventing Policies: Using similar AI tools not explicitly named but falling under the category of prohibited tools to bypass the intended policy.

Disclosure and Citation

Students are required to disclose when they have used AI tools to assist with an assignment or task, unless otherwise directed by the educator. Clear guidelines for citing AI-generated content may be obtained from the teachers and should be followed, acknowledging the AI tool as a source. This may involve detailing which tools were used, how they were used, the prompts entered, how the output was evaluated, and where the output was used in the final submission. Students are responsible for checking on and ensuring the credibility, accuracy and integrity of their final work, regardless of AI assistance.

Data Privacy and Security

Protecting the privacy and security of student and staff data is extremely important. Students must adhere to the following requirements:

- All use of AI tools must comply with applicable laws and regulations, including the Family Rights and Privacy Act [“FERPA”], Children’s Online Privacy Protection Act [“COPPA”], and NH RSA 189:66 V.
 - Only district-approved AI tools may be used, as they have undergone a rigorous vendor vetting process, and comply with data privacy and security standards.
- The District’s Acceptable Use Policy, see EGA “Student Computer Network and Internet use Policy.

Consequences of Misuse

Violations of this policy or the district's AI Plan will result in consequences that align with the district's existing disciplinary procedures and academic honesty policies. Depending on the nature of the violation, this may include a tiered response such as reteaching, parent engagement, administrative action, and opportunities for revision. Students are entitled to appropriate due process in accordance with the district’s student discipline policies.

Consequences for students in the High School shall align with Merrimack High School Policy on Behavior Expectations and Discipline Code as revised and updated from time-to-time.

STUDENT USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**Policy Review and Updates**

Recognizing the rapid pace of AI advancements, this policy is subject to regular review and updates to ensure its guidance remains relevant and effective. The district will periodically review AI strategies, policies, and approved tools, with input from stakeholders.

The School Board will review this policy yearly.

Resources

New Hampshire Generative AI Framework.

State of New Hampshire Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Technologies Policy (Doc. No.: NHS0229 Version: 2, Effective Date: 11/1/23).

New Hampshire Code of Ethics for the Use and Development of Generative Artificial Intelligence and Automated Decision Systems (AI System).

Report of the NEA Task Force on Artificial Intelligence in Education (National Education Association, published: June 26, 2024, last updated: October 22, 2024).

CCSD Policy on Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) Integration (Policy 5110, Adopted: August 29, 2024).

Nashua Board of Education Policy IKL-R: Ethical and Responsible Use of Generative AI (Board Approved: 02/19/2024).

Bedford School District AI Statement (Bedford School District, June 2024).

Bedford School District Parent Letter- Student Use of GenAI in Schools (Bedford School District, March 2024).

Bedford School District School Board Presentation: AI in Education (Bedford School District, August 2023).

AI Committee Document (Bedford School District, August 2023)

Policy 2365: Acceptable Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence (AI) (Strauss Esmay Associates, LLP, Aug 24).

Guidance on AI in education (Office of Educational Technology, U.S. Department of Education, 2023).

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United Nations Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Teaching Profession: Transforming the Teaching Profession: Recommendations and Summary of Deliberations (International Labour Office, Geneva, 2024)

Presidential Actions: Advancing Artificial Intelligence Education for American Youth (Executive Order, April 23, 2025)

RSA 189:68-a - Learner Online Personal Information Protection

*Research analysis was aided by Google's NotebookLM, which assisted in navigating, summarizing, and extracting key information from the provided resource documents.

Legal References

FERPA (Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act).

COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act).

CIPA (Children's Internet Protection Act).

NH Student Online Personal Information Protection Act (SOPIPA or otherwise known as HB520).

RSA 5:D, Use of Artificial Intelligence by State Agencies.

Education Law 2-d

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