

Artificial Intelligence & Generative AI

Empowering a Deeper Conversation

Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is the intellect shown by machines which is based on the synthesized and predictive inferences of the information with which they are trained. In other words, smart machines can be programmed to process data and perform human-like tasks.

Generative AI

Generative AI is a type of artificial intelligence that uses algorithms to produce new data, often in the form of images or text. It is the natural language and informed response capabilities of generative AI that has been surprising educators. We've witnessed the leapfrogging from Google Searches providing hyperlinks to a GPT (Chat Generative Pre-trained Transformer) chatting back and refining plausible answers.

Essential Leadership Guidelines

Generative AI has ushered in a paradigm shift in society that K-12 institutions can shepherd. Superintendents and school district administrators are encouraged to implement these essential guidelines when working with leadership teams and staff to create actionable steps and policies around AI and Generative AI.

Awareness: Ensure that users are aware of the AI tools and their potential benefits for K-12 education. Focusing on how to use Generative AI as a way to develop higher-order thinking skills is a good start.

Limitations: Explain the limitations of the AI tools and the potential for errors or inaccuracies. Teach critical thinking skills to assess and validate AI output.

Ethics and Etiquette: Promote good online etiquette, including proofreading and fact-checking. Teach Ethics in relationship to AI created or assisted work products.

Ongoing Training: Provide ongoing innovation training and reinforcement on the best ways to use AI tools in a safe and responsible manner.

Reporting: Educate the school community about how to report incidents or concerns.

Policies: Set policies to create a culture of safe and responsible use to mitigate the potential risks associated with using AI tools in a school environment while iterating effective ways to leverage the power of generative AI.

Privacy and Security Measures: Review your student data privacy policy, practices, and security measures and consider how they relate when using AI tools.

CoSN Resources

<https://www.cosn.org/ai/>