

School district AI policy in service of learners

*A human promise,
made practical.*

A curated field guide for school system leaders, built to encourage use of the EDSAFE AI resource library and district exemplars.



Policy is a promise about people.

“Teaching and learning are human endeavors served by technology, not replaced by technology.”
New York City Public Schools • Guidance on AI

LEARNER

FAMILY

EDUCATOR

The human relationship first.

The best district policies make the human relationship visible before they name the tool.



Start Here
Who is this policy trying to protect?



Students need rules they can use.

A policy should answer the questions students are already asking:

01

Is AI allowed here?

Make the boundary visible before the assignment begins.

02

What do I disclose?

Name the difference between assistance, authorship, and substitution.

03

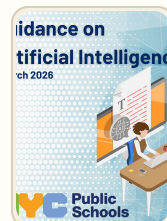
How do I check it?

Teach verification as a learning move, not a compliance footnote.

04

When do I ask a person?

Build an off-ramp to teacher judgment into the experience.



Guidance
on Artificial
Intelligence

NYCPS

**Good policy is legible
at the exact moment
a learner needs it.**

Families deserve a plain-language answer to:

What happens to our data?

- Approved tools
- Data conditions
- Human decisions



Data Use + Protection Checklist

If a district cannot explain the data path, it is **not ready** to scale the tool.



Educators stay the authors of judgment.

AI can draft, sort, summarize, or surface patterns. It cannot carry the professional, ethical, and relational responsibility of a teacher.

“Human judgment, creativity, empathy, and ethical consideration remain essential.”

PPS AI Guidebook



**Negotiating
for Our Future**

AI Policy Lab



Access is not an afterthought.

Students with disabilities, multilingual learners, and families navigating new systems should be visible in the first draft of policy, not added in the last round.

- Assistive technology
- Language + communication access
- Civil rights + bias review

START WITH WHO IS MOST LIKELY TO BE LEFT OUT.
Then design the guardrail before the default.





Designing the policy question

AI Policy Lab

See also: Prioritizing Students with Disabilities in AI Policy • Educating All Learners Alliance



05 / BEFORE ADOPTION

Every tool should come with evidence.

Ask for the record before you ask for the rollout.



Purpose



Training



Storage



Privacy



Access



Retention

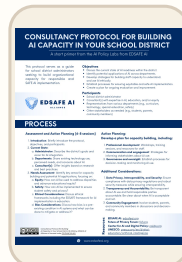


Security



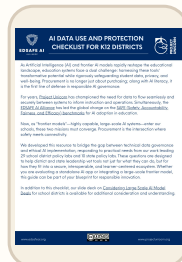
Oversight

The point of a checklist is not paperwork. It is to make “we don’t know” visible early.



Consultancy Protocol

EDSAFE AI Alliance



Data Protection Checklist

Project Unicorn



AI Chatbots

AI Policy Lab

Every serious incident needs a human chain of care.

A bot can surface a signal. Trained people carry the response.

1

FLAG

Spot the signal

2

NOTIFY

Route it to a person

3

ASSESS

Apply the right policy

4

ACT

Document + follow through

Safety is a workflow, not a disclaimer.



AI Chatbots in Schools

Gray areas need readable boundaries.

Make the decision rule visible enough to use in the moment.

RED

Do not delegate

Discipline, disability eligibility, high-stakes placement

AMBER

Proceed with conditions

Drafting, tutoring, translation, analytics with review

GREEN

Permitted with review

Brainstorming, practice, accessibility supports

Color is not policy. The operational definition is.



Addendum to District AI Policy: Restriction of AI Companion Platforms

Formal Addition to Responsible Use of Technology and Artificial Intelligence Policy

Companion-platform addendum

AI Policy Lab

Pair the boundary with a reason, an owner, and a review date.



Policy gets better when more people can see themselves in it.

Start with a listening map. Then publish the decisions.

STUDENTS

FAMILIES

EDUCATORS

SCHOOL LEADERS

IT + PRIVACY

SPECIAL EDUCATION + CIVIL RIGHTS



Checklist + worksheet

AI Policy Lab

A strong process is part of the policy, not the meeting that happens after it.



A board policy should sound like its values.

A useful board-level test: can a reader feel the guardrail in the language?

S

Safety

A

Accountability

F

Fairness

E

Efficacy

Use the governance resources to pressure-test the system — not just the feature list.



Consultancy
Protocol
EDSAFE AI
Alliance

Make the values legible before the policy is tested.



Guidance has to meet the school day.

Principles matter. Routines are what make them real.

POLICY

Principles
Guardrails
Role clarity
Review cycle

PRACTICE

Lesson moves
Staff routines
Family language
Escalation paths



Integration Guide

Agua Fria UHSD



Negotiating for Our Future

AI Policy Lab

A guidebook should reduce the distance between “we value” and “here is what to do next.”

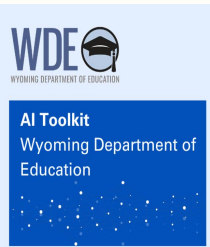
A toolkit is an invitation to learn together.

The best state and district resources create a common language without pretending every community is the same.

01 Compare questions
What does this tool change?

02 Contribute examples
What did our school learn?

03 Keep it current
What changed since last term?



AI Toolkit
Wyoming Dept. of
Education



The hard edge: who decides what counts?

Assessment, measurement, accountability, and other consequential decisions need explicit human boundaries.

AI-generated information may inform a conversation. It should not quietly become the decision-maker.

Name the decision.

Name the accountable person.

Name the appeal.

Publish the promise. Keep revising it.

*Protect people.
Explain the rules.
Keep humans accountable.*

LEARNER

FAMILY

EDUCATOR

Explore the EdSafe AI Resource Library

edsafeai.org/resource-library

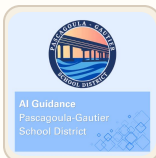
A district policy is never finished. It is a public promise with a review date.



Read more:

Keep the promise practical.

EDSAFE AI shares working library of district guidance, board-policy examples, checklists, worksheets, and toolkits for school system leaders.



DISTRICT GUIDANCE

Pascagoula-Gautier School District AI Guidance

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library

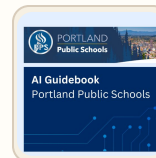


STATE TOOLKIT

Wyoming Department of Education's AI Toolkit

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



SCHOOL-DAY GUIDE

Portland Public Schools AI Guidebook

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



INTEGRATION GUIDE

Agua Fria Union High School District AI Integration Guide

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library

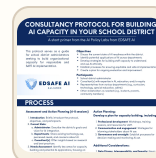


PUBLIC-SCHOOL MODEL

New York City Public Schools: Guidance on AI

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



CAPACITY BUILDING

Consultancy Protocol for Building AI Capacity

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



Keep reading.

Make the promise actionable.

Nine more resources for the questions that come after the first policy draft.



POLICY PLANNING

Negotiating for Our Future: Checklist for K12 Districts

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



WORKING SESSION

Negotiating for Our Future: Worksheet for K12 Districts

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



SHARED FRAMING

Negotiating for Our Future: Slide Deck for K12 Districts

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



SAFETY GUIDANCE

AI Chatbots in Schools: Safety, Liability & Reporting

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



POLICY ADDENDUM

Restriction of AI Companion Platforms

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



FAMILY VOICE

A Parent's Guide to AI Advocacy

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



AI LITERACY

Blueprint for AI Literacy

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



POLICY ARCHITECTURE

Policy Stack

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library



HUMAN-CENTERED DESIGN

Human-Centered Design: Defining Human Learning

OPEN RESOURCE ↗

edsafeai.org/resource-library