

INTEROFFICE CORRESPONDENCE  
Los Angeles Unified School District  
Office of the Superintendent

**INFORMATIVE**

**DATE:** October 12, 2023

**TO:** Members, Board of Education

**FROM:** Alberto M. Carvalho, Superintendent 

**SUBJECT: UPDATE ON DISTRICT-WIDE GENERATIVE ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI) STUDENT ACCESS**

This Board informative is an update from the July 2023 correspondence that provides additional information about Los Angeles Unified (L.A. Unified)'s efforts to design, develop, and support programs focused on integrating artificial intelligence efforts across all schools since 2019. In 2019, the District committed to providing AI literacy support and resources in accordance with [Board Resolution 075-13/14, entitled \*Preparing Students and Employees for Social Transformations in the Digital Age\*](#).

**Background**

In 2019, the District embraced a comprehensive definition of AI to guide policy and program development. According to this definition, artificial intelligence is a branch of computer science that focuses on making machines capable of performing tasks that usually require human intelligence, such as reasoning, solving problems, making decisions, perceiving the world, making meaning, and learning from experience. This definition is adapted from the ISTE and IBM AI Foundations Course.

The District's AI efforts are three-fold:

- cultivate a shared understanding of AI literacy practices,
- create awareness of AI implications for college and career preparedness, and
- support the integration of AI literacy curriculum across content areas.

To meet these expectations, the District leverages partnerships with ISTE, Code.org, and the AI Education Project to provide policy, professional learning, and school-site support and resources.

While access to AI sites has been accessible to employees, in December 2022, the district blocked the use of specific generative artificial intelligence sites, such as ChatGPT, until safety guidelines are in place for student use.

**UPDATE**

Since the last Board update of July 26, 2023, the following steps have taken place to establish safety guidelines before access to students is granted.

1. Policies are being revised or established to integrate AI across the district.
  - a. The Responsible Use Policy for District Computer and Network Systems has been updated to include AI. Parent, student and employee agreement forms now include the responsible use of AI.
  - b. Guidelines for the Authorized Use of Artificial Intelligence for District Employees, Students, and Associated Persons is an initial policy that will be updated often in light of the evolving nature of AI technology.

2. Professional development has been offered to principals, teachers, and parents on the use of current generative AI tools. Upcoming AI professional learning includes the following:
  - a. mandatory teacher professional development on the use of generative artificial intelligence platforms,
  - b. an asynchronous, self-paced course designed on Schoology that explores foundational elements of generative AI,
  - c. a two-hour, synchronous learning experience for school leaders to ensure that AI is approached thoughtfully and appropriately in their school community to transform teaching and learning,
  - d. a two-hour, synchronous learning experience grounded in fostering ethical AI Use and Digital Citizenship, and
  - e. a two-hour, synchronous learning session for classified employees on the power of AI in business.
3. Focus groups were held with parents, teachers, students, and school administrators to get input on the use of generative AI in the classroom. All stakeholder groups showed interest in learning more about this new technology. The student group shared that they were using the Chat GPT site off-campus and thought the district should make it available.
4. Employees have access to generative AI tools such as ChatGPT, Canva Magic Write, Canva Magic Design, and Google Bard.
5. A Task Force was formed consisting of university professors, technologists, technology organizations, principals, teachers, parents, and students to provide policy recommendations. The Task Force recommended that Chat GPT and generative AI tools be made available to students and that professional development be made available across the district.
6. A two-part podcast was produced to share information about generative AI.
7. A dedicated LA Unified website was launched to provide timely resources and information about generative AI. The website is <https://www.lausd.org/Page/19561>.
8. All high school AVID students have access to Packback.co, an AI-powered platform that enhances critical thinking and writing skills through instant feedback on discussions and essays across all content areas.
9. A course for secondary students was created in Schoology to be facilitated during Advisory sessions.
10. A MiSiS screen was developed for educators to verify that students have received Digital Citizenship instruction on an annual basis.

**Next Steps**

We will raise districtwide awareness of AI during Digital Citizenship Week, October 16-21, 2023, with the theme *Digital Citizenship in the Age of AI*. On October 20, a Digital Citizenship Showcase will take place at LA Unified headquarters. In addition, all students ages 13 and above will have access to generative AI tools. The new Responsible Use Policy for District Computer and Network Systems will be reissued to explain the guardrails for the use of generative AI. Task Force meetings will continue to collaborate to discuss and address changes in technology that impact schools.

For additional information and/or questions, please contact Frances Baez, Chief Academic Officer, at [frances.baez@lausd.net](mailto:frances.baez@lausd.net) or (213) 241-4822.

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