

Laredo Independent School District

Curriculum & Instruction COMMITTEE Meeting

Technology Services

September 8, 2026

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Agenda Items

- AI Governance: Responsible Use Policy and Compliance
- Summer STEAM Academy 2026
- 2026-2027 Instructional Technology Initiatives



Texas Administrative Code — AI Governance

Texas Administrative Code — 1 TAC Chapter 219
Effective March 18, 2026

Texas has moved from general AI guidance to a **formal regulatory framework for governmental entities**, including public school districts.

Adopted by the **Texas Department of Information Resources (DIR)**

- Implements requirements established by **SB 1964, 89th Texas Legislature**
- Applies to **state agencies and local governments**
- Texas Government Code defines **school districts as local governments**
- Requires governmental entities to adopt an **AI Code of Ethics** and establish AI risk-management practices

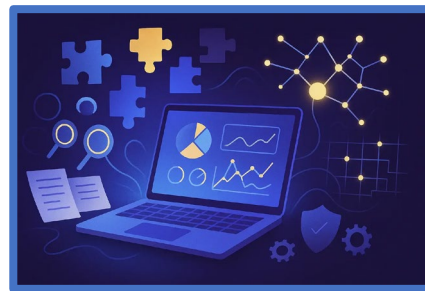
Responsible AI use is now a compliance and governance responsibility—not simply a technology best practice.

Texas Government Code expressly includes school districts within the definition of local government, and Chapter 219 became effective March 18, 2026.

Texas Administrative Code — AI Governance

Core AI Governance Responsibilities -Under 1 TAC Chapter 219, districts must establish controls for the responsible development, procurement, deployment, and use of artificial intelligence.

- **Designate an AI Risk Officer**
- Adopt the state's **AI Code of Ethics**
- Establish governance and accountability for AI systems
- Identify **heightened-scrutiny AI systems**
- Perform **written AI risk assessments** before deploying qualifying systems
- Evaluate security, privacy, accuracy, transparency, and potential harm
- Provide appropriate **employee and contractor training**
- Maintain human oversight for consequential uses of AI
- Address **third-party/vendor AI risk** through contractual requirements
- Document and monitor AI systems throughout their lifecycle



A heightened-scrutiny system is generally one designed to autonomously make, or serve as a controlling factor in, a **consequential decision**. **The district must know where AI is being used, assess its risk, and establish accountable human oversight.**

Texas Administrative Code — AI Governance

AI governance is an **enterprise responsibility** spanning technology, instruction, operations, human resources, student services, legal, cybersecurity, and procurement.

1. Establish district AI governance

- Designate the required AI Risk Officer
- Define roles and accountability

2. Inventory AI use

- District applications
- Instructional platforms
- Administrative tools
- Embedded vendor AI features

3. Classify and assess risk

- Student data and privacy
- Employee information
- Automated recommendations or decisions
- Cybersecurity and data exposure
- Heightened-scrutiny systems



Responsible Use and Guidelines for Artificial Intelligence (AI)

I. Introduction & Purpose

Artificial Intelligence (AI) is quickly becoming a part of our daily lives, changing how we learn, work, and connect. At the Laredo Independent School District, we recognize the power of AI to enhance classroom experiences, unlock creativity, and make everyday tasks easier for both staff and students. While we encourage everyone to stay curious, ask questions, and use AI as a stepping stone for deeper learning, we also must understand that with such innovation comes great responsibility.

This guide serves to ensure that AI is used safely, ethically, and meaningfully within our district and is intended to:

- **Promote Responsible Use:** Support student engagement, curiosity, and academic growth.
- **Mitigate Risks:** Help users recognize issues like bias, misinformation, and privacy concerns.
- **Foster Digital Citizenship:** Equip students and staff to think critically and act responsibly in a world shaped by AI.
- **Ensure Equity and Accessibility:** Make AI tools accessible and beneficial for all members of our school community.
- **Comply with Regulations:** Adhere to relevant local, state, and federal laws regarding data privacy and student information.

A. AI in Innovation, Careers, and the Future

AI is reshaping industries, from healthcare and engineering to business, agriculture, and the arts. By introducing students to AI tools and concepts early, we are helping them gain skills they will need to thrive in an evolving digital world. At Laredo ISD, we believe in empowering students to become not just users of AI, but informed creators, collaborators, and problem-solvers who can lead innovation with responsibility and purpose.

II. Definitions

- **Artificial Intelligence (AI):** Technology that mimics human intelligence to perform tasks or make decisions based on the information collected. Examples include ChatGPT, MagicSchool AI, Gemini, Grammarly, or learning platforms that adapt to your skill level.
- **Generative AI:** A type of AI that creates content, such as writing a story, answering a question, or designing an image, based on a user's prompt.
- **Prompt:** The instruction or question you give to an AI tool to generate a response or perform a task.

Texas Administrative Code — AI Governance

4. Strengthen policy and procurement

- Acceptable AI use
- Vendor requirements
- Data governance
- Human review and approval

5. Train employees

- Appropriate AI use
- Confidential and student information
- Verification of AI-generated content
- Responsible use and accountability

Our objective is not to prohibit AI. It is to enable its benefits while protecting students, employees, district data, and public trust.

Artificial intelligence is already becoming embedded in the systems our employees and students use every day. Our responsibility is to make sure adoption is intentional, secure, transparent, and compliant. TAC 219 gives us the framework to do that.

Summer Academy 2026

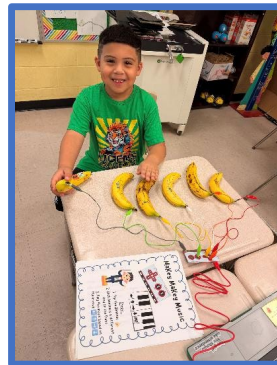
“Ultimate Theme Park Edition”

The Summer STEAM Academy inspired nearly **400 students** in Kinder–2nd and 3rd–4th grade across 10 elementary hubs to become future engineers, designers, and problem solvers.

Students engaged in 16 days of hands-on, real-world learning that integrated:

- **Blueprint Architecture** – designing to scale and planning their ultimate theme park
- **Physics & Engineering** – exploring energy, motion, and structural integrity
- **Coding & Technology** – programming smart park features and interactive experiences
- **Marketing & Entrepreneurship** – developing and pitching their park concepts

The experience culminated in **interactive family showcases and live student pitches**, giving students opportunities to demonstrate their creativity, collaboration, problem-solving, communication, and leadership skills.



2026-2027 Instructional Technology Initiatives



Esports Expansion:

- Rollout of additional elementary teams and launch of the Middle School Esports League to build teamwork and collaboration.



Inst. Tech Platforms:

- Optimize Canva and ClassDojo district-wide to empower student creativity and streamline family engagement.
- Continued PD growth opportunities



AI Empowerment:

- Continued focus on safe and effective Artificial Intelligence training and integration for teachers, staff, students & families.



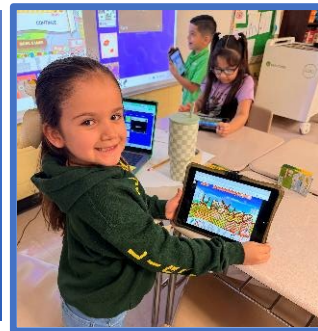
Tech Apps TEKS:

- Sustained alignment with Learning.com for K-5 Technology Applications standards.



STEAM & Innovation:

- Expansion of STEAM Family Events
- Ongoing STEAM integration & technology recognitions



Thank you! Any Questions?

