

## **Preparing for Artificial Intelligence (AI) in Eden Prairie Schools—The Board’s Perspective**

Advances in technology have reshaped society, revolutionized how we work, live, and interact. Artificial Intelligence (AI) is becoming mainstream, and the School Board recognizes the opportunities and challenges of using AI in education. We would like to highlight how Eden Prairie Schools are preparing to harness AI to drive student success.

Over the past decade, our schools have helped students develop 21<sup>st</sup> century skills through integration of the “4Cs” (communication, collaboration, creativity, and critical thinking) into our curriculum. This had laid the groundwork for leveraging technologic advancements like AI.

To better understand how AI might be used in our district, the Board has engaged district leadership and outside experts to review its potential rewards relative to student achievement and social emotional development. Furthermore, the administration engaged students and staff, upgraded policies, and piloted ideas aimed at identifying the way forward. Looking ahead, here are some ways AI could potentially reshape the traditional classroom:

- Incorporating high-tech testing approaches, simulated AI models, digital assistants, and vocational equipment to enhance learning experiences, while making personalized 1-1 education more feasible.

- Helping teachers deliver education more efficiently by automating tasks and allowing more time for personal engagement with students. Emphasis will continue to shift toward building critical thinking skills and applying AI tools to solve problems.

The board considers the 4Cs foundational to students’ future success in the age of AI. The district has created well-defined metrics to evaluate these skills for each student and monitor those metrics at a district-wide level by the School Board. The development of the 4Cs skills in each student will be critical as AI impacts the value of critical thinking and problem-solving skills.

While there are uncertainties regarding how AI will impact education, the district has been proactive in preparing for AI by establishing effective governance, strategies, technology tools, pilot programs, and staff partnerships.

This journey is just beginning, and the Board encourages all stakeholders to engage, share optimism, and voice concerns. Only through collaboration can we deliver the exceptional achievements our community expects in these transformational times.