

AI Work Group Update

Board of Education Curriculum Subcommittee
New Fairfield Public Schools
October 27, 2025



NFPS Artificial Intelligence (AI) Work Group



Essential Question:

How can AI be leveraged appropriately and ethically in NFPS as a tool for innovation, efficiency, and learning across stakeholders?

[illegible]

Objectives (Spring / Fall 2025):

- (1) To bring together stakeholders with multiple perspectives to **develop guiding principles** for AI that are situated in the broader context of digital literacy.
- (2) To research, examine, and shape **guidelines / norms for the permissible and ethical use** of AI in NFPS (including student-facing norms).
- (3) To **explore, examine, and experience AI tools and resources** in order to **inform professional learning** for all faculty and staff and learning experiences for students.

NFPS Artificial Intelligence (AI) Work Group



Loretta Boatey (HS - Parent)

Sara Dyckman (District - Technology)

Heidi Edel (HS - World Language)

Theresa Foley (MS - Library Media)

Jean Gephart (6-12 Science CIL)

Jeff Giuliano (ES - STEM)

Paul Gouveia (District - Director of Technology)

Christine Haddad (HS - Library Media)

Jennifer Hilderbrand (ES - Assistant Principal)

Amy Kidd (MS - ELA)

William Jones (HS - Social Studies)

Michael Lambert (ES - Parent)

Kimberly Laughlin (6-12 Counseling)

Sterling Miller (HS - CTE)

Kimberly Moran (MS - Math)

Kathleen Neth (ES - Paraeducator)

Meghan O'Rourke (ES - Grade 5)

Scott Rohwedder (HS - Assistant Principal)

Kris Woleck (Assistant Superintendent)

Casey Wood (MS - Science)

NFHS Students: **Bronson Brown, Madison Cipollone, Patrick DaSilva, Dylan Dawes, Kaden Juul, Zachary Peterson, Kal Russo, Daniel Sanchez, Emilia Sedlak, Hudson Schaefer**

NFPS Artificial Intelligence (AI) Work Group

- **Range of stakeholders**

- 12 Teachers (K-12, cross-disciplinary)
- 4 Administrators
- 2 District staff members (paraeducator, IT)
- 2 Parents (ES, HS)
- 6-10 Students (NFHS, sophomores - seniors)

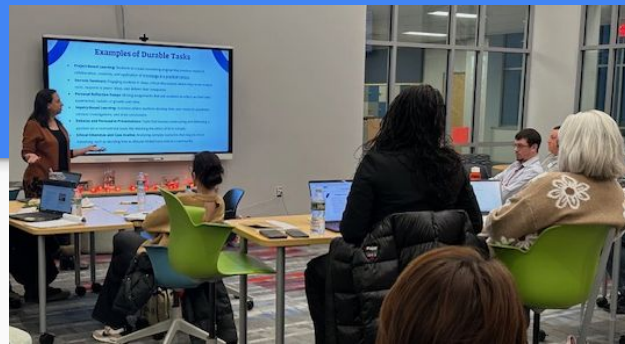


NFPS Artificial Intelligence (AI) Work Group

- **Monthly meetings**

- Understanding artificial intelligence
- Exploring AI tools and applications (*Dr. Elizabeth Radday, EdAdvance*)
- Analyzing ethical scenarios
- Examining models and guidance from other districts / states

Ongoing and iterative discourse, drafting, and reflection ...



NFPS Artificial Intelligence (AI) Work Group

- **AI Design Teams**
 - Educator / instructional tools
 - Student-use norms / guidance
 - Educator guidance
 - Professional learning



NEW FAIRFIELD PUBLIC SCHOOLS GUIDING PRINCIPLES FOR THE USE OF AI

IN ALIGNMENT WITH THE NFPS VISION OF THE LEARNER, THESE PRINCIPLES GUIDE OUR ONGOING COMMITMENT TO THE INTEGRATION OF AI IN OUR SCHOOLS TO PREPARE STUDENTS FOR AN INCREASINGLY GLOBAL AND DIGITAL WORLD.



THE ROLE OF AI

We believe AI can augment and enhance learning when it is used with intentionality and judgment, and when it does not replace human relationships and community.



ACCESSIBILITY

We believe all learners should have the opportunity to develop meaningful, age-appropriate skills with AI and understand its capabilities and limitations.



THE LEARNER

We believe critical thinking skills, including analysis, questioning, and reflection, support the appropriate use of AI and are to be balanced with strong foundational skills.



ETHICS AND SAFETY

We believe academic integrity, acceptable use of AI, and social responsibility must be upheld, with ongoing dialogue among all stakeholders.



CONTINUOUS IMPROVEMENT

We believe it is necessary to continually learn, reflect, and refine skills given the ongoing research and rapidly-changing development of AI technologies.



NFPS Student Use of AI (Artificial Intelligence)

I commit to using AI in a safe and responsible manner to support my learning and positively contribute to the NFPS community.

This means:

- ☐ For class assignments, I will use AI only at the level indicated by my teacher.
- ☐ I will be honest about my use of AI and will not submit work that has been generated entirely by AI as my own.
- ☐ If I use AI, I will credit its use and document the process I used.
- ☐ If I use AI, I will review what is produced to learn from it and to be sure it is accurate and credible.
- ☐ At no time will I use AI in a way that could cause harm.
- ☐ I will respect feedback from adults to help me be sure that I am not over-using or over-relying on AI tools.

I understand that failure to adhere to these guidelines may result in consequences, including loss of access to AI tools or electronic devices and disciplinary actions aligned to the NFPS Code of Responsibility and Respect, NFPS Academic Integrity policy, and NFPS Acceptable Use policy.

Student AI Guidelines: At a Glance

New Fairfield Public Schools



Using AI in a safe and responsible manner can support learning and positively contribute to the NFPS community.



Here's what that means:

Responsible Use

- Talk with your teacher before using AI for any class assignments.
- Always check the accuracy of facts and reliability of sources in AI.
- Cite AI use and document the process used.

Ethical Behavior

- At no time should AI be used in a way that could harm any one in our school community or beyond.
- Be honest about your use of AI and do not submit work that has been generated entirely by AI as your own.
- Do not share confidential information or use AI platforms that are restricted.

Always Learning

- Learn about AI before using it to understand how it can be used well and what the cautions are.
- Respect feedback from adults to be sure you are not over relying on AI.



Professional Learning



- **June AI Summer BootCamp** for NFPS educators (with Matt Mervis, EdAdvance consultant)
- **Staff-led AI Student-Use session** for NFHS staff (August 2025), with introduction of levels of AI Use
- **Staff-led AI Professional Learning workshop selections** for PK-12 NFPS staff (November 2025)
- **AI Keynote / Professional Learning workshop selections** for PK-12 NFPS staff (with EdAdvance facilitators, anticipated, February 2026)



- (1) Implement **guidance / norms of use** with **review and feedback** from range of stakeholders
- (2) Collaborate with PDEC and leadership team to structure **AI professional learning opportunities** for all staff across 2025-26 school year
- (3) Integrate AI as a component of the **K-12 Digital Literacy skills progression** to articulate points of instruction for students (ongoing) and ensure tools to support that learning
- (4) **Participate** in Tri-State Consortium, EdAdvance, and other educational AI opportunities to remain current in practice, consider policy implications, and inform the work of the AI Work Group
- (5) Launch **NFHS Student AI Group** (Fall 2025) to engage students in opportunities to examine AI tools, give voice to integration in the classroom, and learn about use of AI tools across a range of industries (science, finance, media production, etc.)