

Ashland School District 5

Code: IIBGC/GCLA/GDLA
Adopted: 5/09/24

Artificial Intelligence

Preamble:

The Ashland School District Board recognizes the significant and rapidly expanding role of Artificial Intelligence (AI) technologies in our society and the global economy. Understanding the importance of preparing our students for a future where AI is ubiquitous, the Board is committed to implementing a comprehensive AI literacy program across K-12 education. This policy aims to ensure students are equipped with the knowledge and skills to use AI tools effectively, think critically about AI technologies, and navigate the ethical implications of AI in both academic and real-world settings.

Policy Objectives:

- **To develop AI literacy among students at developmentally appropriate levels across all grades, K-12.**
- **To provide educators with the guidance and professional development needed to effectively teach AI concepts.**
- **To ensure universal access to AI tools and resources within the learning environment.**
- **To promote equity and ethical use of AI across all student demographics.**
- **To incorporate AI literacy, citizenship, and skills into the curriculum.**
- **To advocate for safe use and privacy in the application of AI technologies.**
- **To enhance bias awareness and foster an environment of ongoing assessment and recalibration of AI tools and instructional strategies.**

1. **Guidance and Professional Development for Educators:**

The district will facilitate ongoing professional development opportunities for educators to remain abreast of AI advancements and pedagogical strategies for integrating AI literacy into the curriculum. This includes workshops, seminars, and access to AI educational resources.

2. **Universal Access to AI Tools:**

To eliminate the digital divide, the district will ensure that all students have equitable access to AI tools and technologies at school. This will be achieved through the provision of necessary hardware and software in classrooms and libraries across the district.

3. **Equity and Ethical Use of AI:**

Curriculum development will include a strong emphasis on the ethical considerations of AI, including privacy, security, and the societal impacts of technology. The district will prioritize creating an inclusive environment where all students can learn about and engage with AI technologies.

4. **AI Literacy, Citizenship, and Skills:**

The curriculum will integrate AI literacy at all grade levels, tailored to the developmental stages of students. This includes understanding AI technology, its applications, and fostering responsible digital citizenship and critical thinking skills.

5. **Safe Use and Privacy:**

Education on the safe use of AI technologies and the importance of data privacy will be embedded into the curriculum. Students will learn best practices for protecting personal information online and the implications of data sharing.

6. **Bias Awareness:**

Instruction will include discussions on the potential biases within AI systems and the importance of diverse data sets in the development of AI technologies. Students will be encouraged to critically evaluate AI outputs and consider the ethical dimensions of AI use.

7. **Harmful Use of AI**

The creation and dissemination of deep fakes—digitally manipulated photographs, audio, or videos that create explicit, derogatory, or false portrayals of students or members of the school community—present significant risks to mental health, the school environment, and safety. The use of deep fakes and any other potentially harmful applications of AI are strictly forbidden and will lead to disciplinary measures up to and including expulsion. Any criminal behavior will be reported to law enforcement.

The District will provide instruction about the ethical use of AI technologies and the consequences of their misuse.

8. **Ongoing Assessment and Recalibration:**

The district commits to the continuous evaluation of AI literacy curriculum and resources, ensuring that instructional materials remain current with the evolving landscape of AI technologies. This includes regular updates to the curriculum and professional development offerings based on the latest research and industry advancements.

Implementation:

The Superintendent, in collaboration with the District Technology Officer and Curriculum Development Team, will oversee the policy's implementation, including resource allocation, program development, and the establishment of evaluation metrics to assess progress.

Review and Adjustment:

The policy will be reviewed annually by the Board, with adjustments made as necessary to reflect technological advancements, educational research, and feedback from educators, students, and the community.

END OF POLICY

Legal Reference(s):