

SPARK!

Igniting digital learning through shared experience

Leader Edition



HOW DO SCHOOL AND DISTRICT LEADERS ENSURE ACADEMIC INTEGRITY AS NEW AI TECHNOLOGIES EMERGE?

● Anna Beard, Senior Academic Integrity Manager at FlexPoint Education Cloud and Florida Virtual School.

1.) Train Your Staff and Families

Equip your staff and families with the necessary skills for leveraging artificial intelligence (AI) tools effectively. I suggest offering training sessions and resources to teachers, support staff, students, and parents. Here are free resources to get you started:

- [Toolkit by Teach AI](#): This comprehensive toolkit aids schools and districts in formulating guidelines to optimize AI benefits in education while managing potential risks.
- [EducationWeek Webinar](#): This webinar explores integrating AI into instructional and assessment methods.



2.) Strengthen Trust with Students Through Individual Discussions

While there are tools that can help identify potential cheating, they're not foolproof. Educators play a crucial role in discerning the authenticity of student work. By having regular one-to-one interactions with students, teachers can get better insight into their interests, strengths, and challenges, which can aid in evaluating the legitimacy of their work. This personalized approach can also help distinguish between students leveraging AI tools for learning versus cheating.

For example, one of our teachers recently noticed that their student had a high AI detection score on an assignment. To understand why the AI score was so high, the teacher had a one-to-one conversation with the student where she learned that the student used ChatGPT to deepen their understanding of the topic. This dialogue highlights that AI use isn't inherently negative. Instead, it enhanced the student's comprehension and fostered teacher-student collaboration on how to best use AI tools.

3.) Encourage Creative Use of AI Tools Among Teachers and Support Staff

Consider the evolution of calculators, once feared for promoting shortcuts in math education but now indispensable aids that enhance comprehension and efficiency. Similarly, AI tools offer educators the opportunity to innovate teaching methods.

Encourage brainstorming sessions among your teachers and support staff on how they can creatively use AI tools in the classroom (in-person or virtual). Here are a few ideas:

- **Utilize AI to reinforce students' writing skills, such as grammar and essay structures.**
- **Challenge students to analyze AI-generated content to identify key elements like thesis statements and supporting evidence.**
- **Integrate AI into educational games and quizzes aligned with the curriculum.**

I hope these three tips help educators safeguard and enhance their academic integrity guidelines as emerging technology continues to change how we teach and learn. To learn more about how to manage academic integrity in the online learning environment, visit www.FlexPointEducation.com.

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