A. Policy Purpose

To establish a framework and expectations for the safe, responsible, and educational use of artificial intelligence (AI) within Frederick County Public Schools (FCPS).

B. Definitions

1. "Academic Integrity" is defined to mean a commitment to honesty, transparency, and responsibility in all academic work, which includes submitting original work and accurately crediting the sources of any external content used.

2. "Artificial Intelligence" (AI) is defined to mean computational systems that perform tasks associated with human intelligence, including pattern recognition, content generation, prediction, and adaptive output.

3. "Artificial Intelligence Bias" or "AI Bias" is defined to mean systematic, unwanted unfairness or misinformation in how a computer detects patterns, automates decisions, or provides content.

4. "Artificial Intelligence Literacy" or "AI Literacy" is defined to mean the knowledge and skills needed to understand, evaluate, and use AI responsibly, including awareness of limitations, AI bias, and appropriate use.

5. "Data Security" is defined to mean administrative, physical, and technical safeguards designed to protect information confidentiality, integrity, and availability throughout its lifecycle, from creation or collection through destruction.

C. Policy Statement

1. The Board of Education of Frederick County (Board) recognizes that AI is becoming increasingly embedded in today's world and is committed to preparing students for future success in a rapidly changing economy and technological landscape.

2. The Board recognizes that AI use may prevent students from developing essential critical thinking, problem solving, and communication skills for college and career success. Used without adequate safeguards, it can introduce risks related to privacy, AI bias, equity, academic integrity, and over-reliance on automated systems.

3. The use of AI should not displace or impair the connection between students and educators, as a connection is essential to fostering academic success, critical thinking, interpersonal and social skills, emotional well-being, creativity, and the ability to fully participate in

society. AI-enhanced tools that undermine any of these critical aspects of teaching and learning should not be used.

4. Any AI use in FCPS must serve direct educational, curricular, program, or operational purposes, protect the rights and safety of students and staff; maintain rigorous data security and privacy standards; advance academic integrity; and comply with all applicable federal and Maryland law.

5. Staff, students, and Board members may not engage in AI use that substantially disrupts or is likely to cause a significant disruption to school operations. The use of AI to harass or bully another individual, whether on-campus or off-campus, is considered a significant disruption to school operations. The Board expects instances of AI harassment or bullying to be subject to appropriate disciplinary measures.

D. Implementation

1. **AI Use**
   a. The Board prohibits the use of AI by students in Grades PreK-12, except as may be necessary to provide AI literacy instruction, where AI use is required for a course or extracurricular program, or as may be approved by the Superintendent or their designee.
   b. The Board restricts AI use to FCPS-approved AI tools that can only be accessed within the secure FCPS network and monitored by FCPS.
   c. Staff may use AI consistent with regulations and guidelines established by the Superintendent, including for operational needs, but shall not use AI to replace direct instruction or to evaluate student work.
   d. Use of AI must be permitted where included in a student's Individualized Education Plan (IEP), Section 504 Plan, or whether otherwise required by law, regardless of grade level.

2. The Superintendent is directed to:
   a. Adopt regulations to implement this Policy and related guidelines for FCPS staff and students.
   b. Ensure that such regulations and guidelines address, but are not limited to:
      i. Student-centered use;
      ii. Prohibited use;
      iii. Human oversight;
      iv. Equity and access;
      v. Data security;
      vi. Academic integrity and assessment;
      vii. Professional learning for staff;
      viii. AI literacy for students;
      ix. Appropriate operational and system use; and
      x. Procurement guidelines.

3. The Superintendent is further directed to form an advisory group of teachers, administrators, students, and community members to advise and monitor implementation and recommend adjustments as needed.

E. Related Information

1. **Board Policy**
   a. Policy 115, *Responsible Use of Social Media* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/115)
   b. Policy 118, *Personal Mobile Devices* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/118)
   c. Policy 208, *Data Security* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/208)
   d. Policy 210, *Technology Acquisition* (formerly 434) (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/210)
   e. Policy 403, *Student Discipline* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/403)
   f. Policy 404, *Student Rights and Responsibilities* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/404)
   g. Policy 437, *Bullying-Harassment-Intimidation* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/437)
   h. Policy 444, *Educational Equity and Excellence* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/444)
   i. Policy 500, *Approval of Curriculum and Instructional Resources* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/500)
   j. Policy 508, *Supporting Students with Disabilities* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/508)

2. **External Resources**
   a. Maryland State Department of Education (MSDE) (June 2026), *Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Public Schools: Maryland's Framework for Responsible AI in Education* (https://fcps-md.info/MSDE_AI_Guide)
   b. MSDE Artificial Intelligence Webpage (https://fcps-md.info/MSDE_AI)

3. **FCPS Regulations**
   a. Regulation 100-08, *Responsible Use of Social Media* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/100-08)
   b. Regulation 118-01, *Personal Mobile Devices* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/118-01)
   c. Regulation 124-01, *Artificial Intelligence: Student, Staff, and Operational Use* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/124-01)
   d. Regulation 208-02, *Data Privacy, Students* (formerly 400-96) (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/208-02)
   e. Regulation 301-03, *Technology Use, Staff* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/301-03)

f. Regulation 400-48, *Bullying, Harassment, Intimidation Complaint Process for Students* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/400-48)
g. Regulation 403-01, *Student Discipline* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/403-01)
h. Regulation 434-01, *Technology Use, Students* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/434-01)
i. Regulation 500-08, *Selection and Approval of Digital Tools for the Instructional Program* (https://apps.fcps.org/legal/documents/500-08)

4. **FCPS Resources**
   a. FCPS / Academics / Digital Learning Experience (https://www.fcps.org/academics/digital_learning_experience)
   b. FCPS / Academics / Digital Learning Experience / Artificial Intelligence (AI) (https://www.fcps.org/academics/digital_learning_experience/artificial_intelligence_ai)
   c. FCPS / Academics / Digital Learning Experience / Digital Citizenship (https://www.fcps.org/academics/digital_learning_experience/digital_citizenship)
   d. FCPS / Families & Students / Student Code of Conduct (https://www.fcps.org/families_students/student_code_of_conduct)
   e. FCPS / Staff / Employee Code of Conduct (https://www.fcps.org/staff/employee_code_of_conduct)

5. **Federal Law**
   a. Children's Online Privacy Protection Act (COPPA), 15 USC § 6501, *et seq.* (https://fcps-md.info/COPPA_15_USC_6501)
   b. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA) (https://fcps-md.info/FERPA_20_USC_1232g)
   c. Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA) (https://fcps-md.info/IDEA_20_USC_1400)
   d. Protection of Pupil Rights Amendment (PPRA) (https://fcps-md.info/PPRA_20_USC_1232h)
   e. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (Section 504) (https://fcps-md.info/PPRA_20_USC_1232h)

6. **Maryland Law**
   a. Maryland Law Cybersecurity Act of 2022

7. **Maryland Statutes**
   a. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-2201 (https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-2201)
   b. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-2202 (https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-2202)
   c. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-2203 (https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-2203)
   d. Md. Code Ann., Educ. § 7-2204 (https://fcps-md.info/MD_Educ_Code_7-2204)

e. Md. Code Ann., State Fin. & Proc. § 3.5-801 (https://fcps-md.info/MD_State_Fin_Code_3-5-801)

F. Policy History (Maintained by Legal Services)

Responsible Office	Department of Curriculum and Instruction; Department of Information Technology
Adoption Dates	10/07/26
Review Dates	
Revision Dates	10/22/26