



NORTH DAKOTA  
**DEPARTMENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION**

# **ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE, LEGISLATION, & STUDENT SUCCESS**

Artificial Intelligence and Data Center Committee

**North Dakota State Superintendent** Levi Bachmeier

nd.gov/dpi



# Leading The Nation With America's Best Schools





# **Threading The Needle on Educational Technology**

**Safety First – Active > Passive – Family Partnership – Teacher Led**

**Topics for Exploration; not all Recommendations**

# North Dakota Community Survey on Education

To inform revisions to the Statewide Strategic Vision Framework, stakeholders across North Dakota were invited to provide information about their priorities for improvements to the K–12 education system via brief, online surveys in.

- ✓ 2,000+ respondents
- ✓ Multiple-choice and extended response questions
- ✓ Scientifically representative “poll”



## PK-12 Education Strategic Vision Framework

**Our vision is that all students will graduate choice ready with the knowledge, skills, and disposition to be successful**

**We will make progress toward this vision by achieving these long-term outcomes for students**

- Increase students who enter kindergarten prepared to learn, and increase the number of kindergarten classrooms that meet the needs of every learner
- Increase students who demonstrate reading proficiency in 3rd grade
- Increase students who demonstrate math proficiency in 8th grade
- Increase students who meet expected learning gains each year
- Increase students who engage in learning
- Increase students who graduate Choice Ready
- Reduce the disparity in achievement for students with disabilities, students in poverty, and Native American students

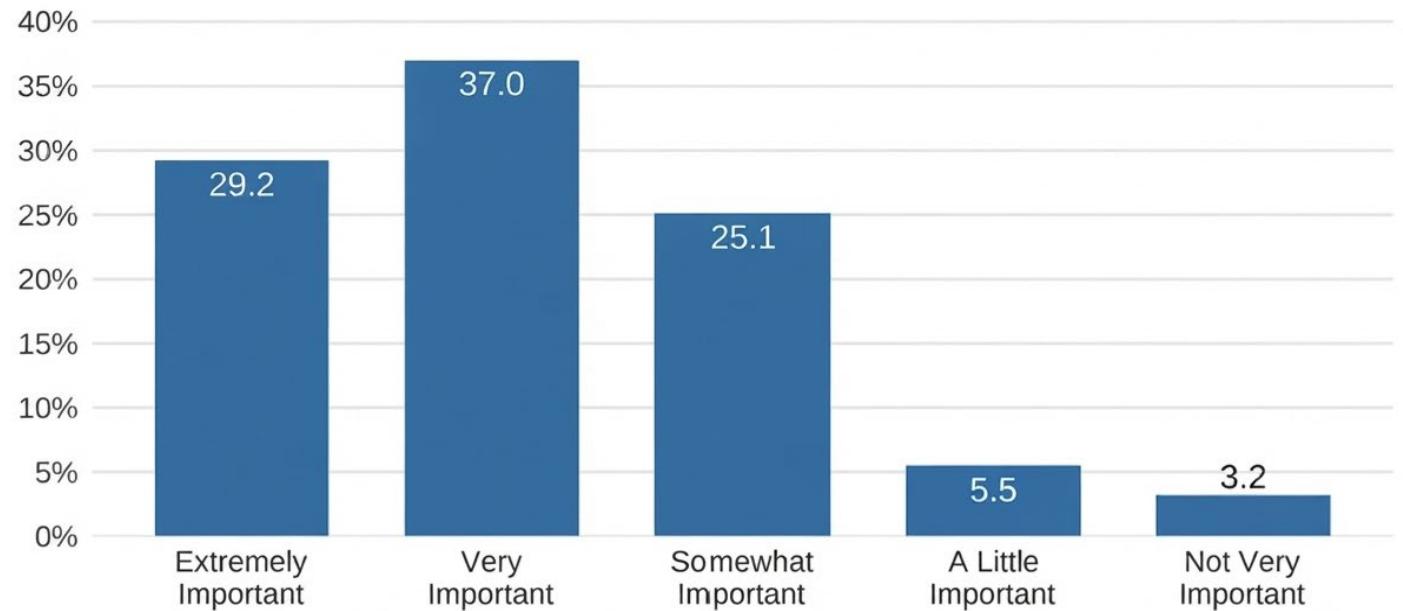
**We will drive improvement on these outcomes through focused effort within these strategic themes**

- Quality early childhood experiences
- Support for safe and healthy behaviors
  - Reduce chronic absenteeism and increase attendance
- Career awareness, exploration, and development
- Quality education personnel
- Quality student-centered instruction

# Technology Access

*North Dakota Community Survey on Education (Figure 14)*

How important is technology access in supporting teaching and learning?



*Note.* Those who did not respond to the question are excluded from calculations.

*Source.* North Dakota Community Survey on Education, 2026.

# When to Introduce Technology Devices

*North Dakota Community Survey on Education (Table 7)*

| Response Category                               | Percent of North Dakota Respondents |
|-------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------|
| As soon as they start school                    | 5.4                                 |
| Middle of elementary school (about third grade) | 12.8                                |
| Start of junior high or middle school           | 43.1                                |
| Start of high school                            | 26.0                                |
| Never                                           | 12.7                                |

*Note.* Those who did not respond to the question are excluded from calculations.

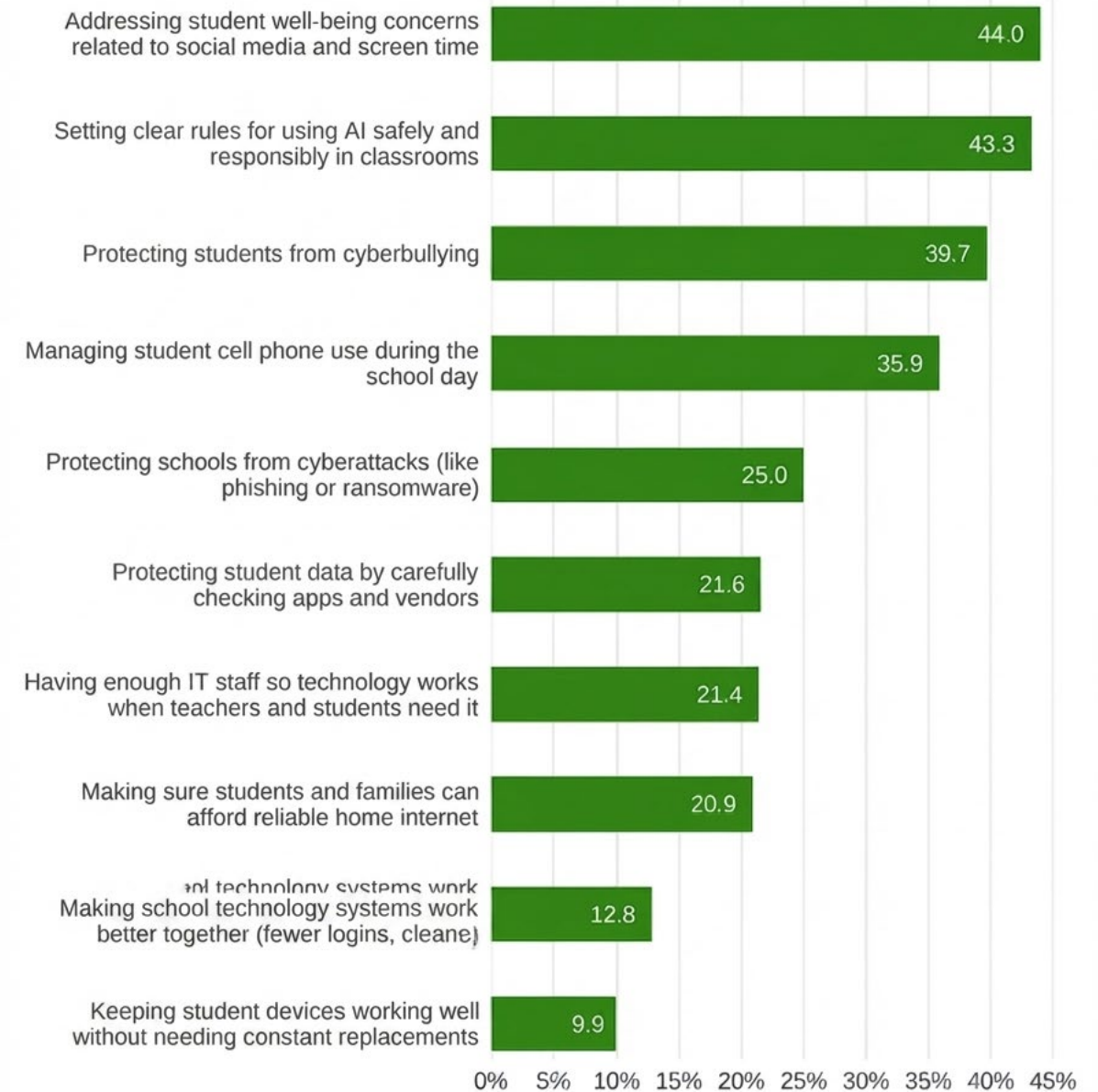
*Question.* When do you think students should get a dedicated technology device (like a tablet or laptop) from their school that they can bring home?

*Source.* North Dakota Community Survey on Education, 2026.

# Technology Challenges

*North Dakota Community Survey on Education (Figure 15)*

What are the biggest technology challenges for K-12 in North Dakota schools right now?  
(Select up to three.)

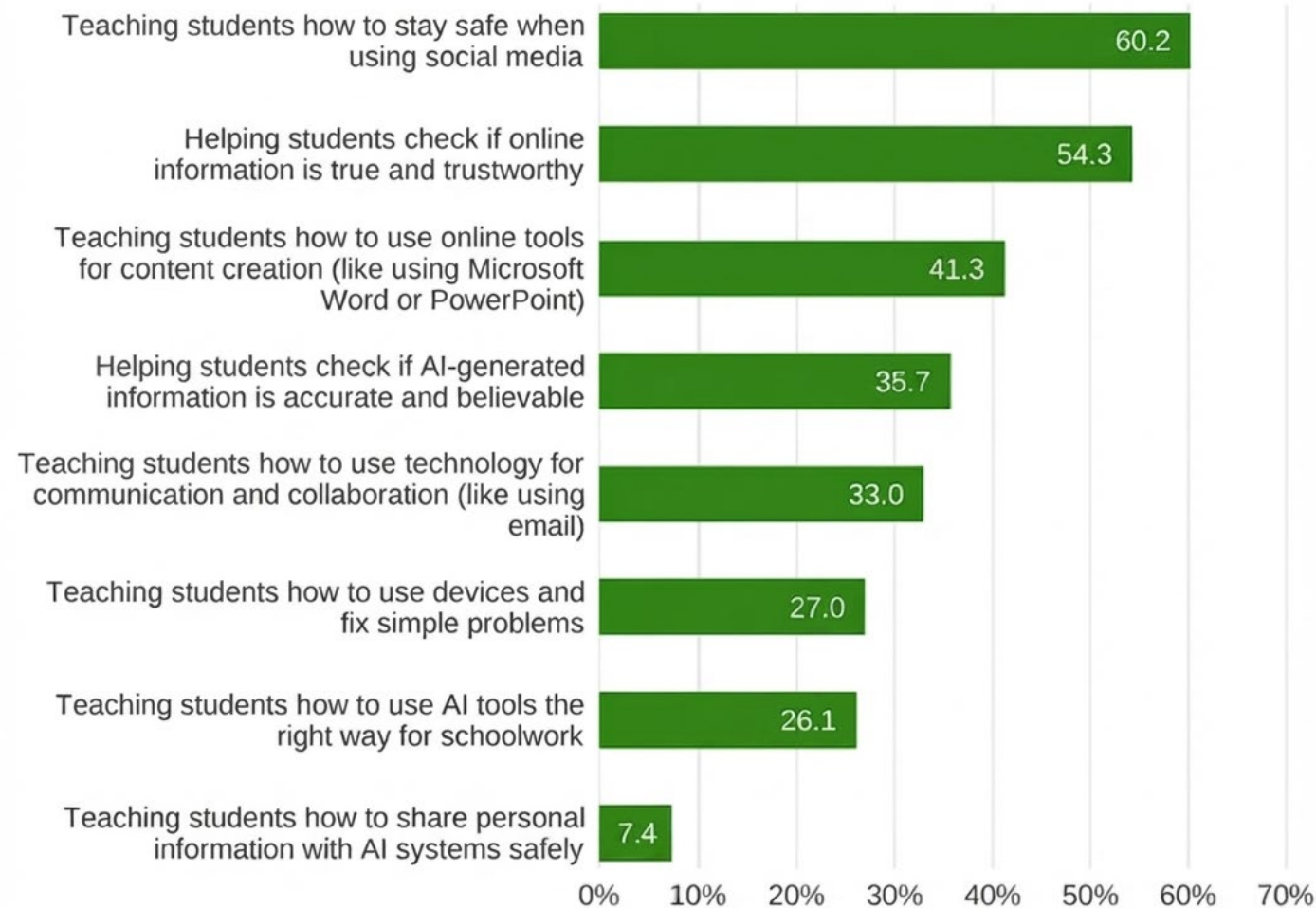


*Note.* Percentages are weighted calculation of the number of respondents who reported each item as one of their top three choices divided by the number of respondents. Respondents chose an average of 2.8 items. Those who did not respond to the question are excluded from calculations.  
*Source.* North Dakota Community Survey on Education, 2026.

# Digital Literacy

North Dakota Community Survey on Education (Figure 16)

Of the following choices, which three things do you think North Dakota should focus on to improve digital literacy in K-12 schools? (Select up to three.)



*Note.* Percentages are weighted calculation of the number of respondents who reported each item as one of their top three choices divided by the number of respondents. Respondents chose an average of 2.9 items. Those who did not respond to the question are excluded from calculations.

*Source.* North Dakota Community Survey on Education, 2026.

# Actually Being Helpful with AI

S.2026

- a. Relevant materials
  - i. The Students First Act of 2026
  - ii. ExcelinEd digital protections recommendations
  - iii. Community Survey on Education
  - iv. Voluntary Statewide Education Technology Policy Survey
  - v. School Visit Feedback and Teacher Conversations

## The STUDENTS FIRST Act

The “Safe Technology Use, Data Privacy, and Ethical Norms for Teaching—Fostering Integrity and Responsible Systems in Teaching (STUDENT FIRST) Act of 2026” is hereby introduced for the inaugural 2026 Student Senate convening on artificial intelligence policy, to establish rights, protections, and responsibilities for students, parents, teachers, and administrators with respect to the use of artificial intelligence in education, and for other purposes.

### SECTION 1. GENERAL PROVISIONS

The following provisions will apply generally to all K-12 public school community members.

1. Any organizations that offer generative AI powered services to public educational facilities must address all known biases within their generative AI, and must inform their clients of the biases that their products represent. The public educational facility must then provide this information to the parents and guardians of their students.
2. Educators should always prioritize educator-student relationships by omitting AI usage in

# Ways of Thinking About AI

| Topic                                                         | School Action                                                                         | Policy Opportunity                                                                    |
|---------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Foundational protections for students and educators           |    |    |
| Exposing students to AI as important digital tool             |    |    |
| Managing academic integrity and cognitive offloading risks    |    |    |
| Teacher efficiency, personalization                           |   |   |
| Students using AI as educational resources/teacher supplement |  |  |

# Foundational Protections For Students And Educators

## TOPICS TO EXPLORE

- a) Prohibition on creation of AI images, videos, audio recordings, or messages to bully, harass, libel, or falsely accuse students, educators, and community members
- b) Requirement that any AI chatbot companion company bears the same burden of mandated reporter responsibility applying to educators





# Foundational Protections For Students And Educators

## TOPICS TO EXPLORE

- c) Student or teacher personal information, including birthdays, social security numbers, or other sensitive information, may not be entered in open AI tools that are used to train large language models
- d) Age based restrictions on social media sites and AI companion chatbot platforms that require actual age verification and parental consent requirements (*NY S 9051 prohibition of companion chatbots to minors*)



# Foundational Protections For Students And Educators

## TOPICS TO EXPLORE

- e) Duty of care requirements stipulating if minors are allowed access, AI companies are legally accountable of protecting minors from harm (*OH HB 524 bans AI models that encourage self-harm or harming others*)
- f) Protective measure requirements that require platforms to adopt safeguards that prevent addictive or manipulative engagement (*CA SB 243 requires AI companions to clearly disclose they are not human and provide crisis support*)

# Exposure to AI

- Requirement to provide AI literacy instruction when students receive a dedicated student technology device
- Revisit existing North Dakota Century Code about curricular and credentialing requirements around computer science and cybersecurity to better recognize the potential impact and rate of change related to AI
- Resources to contract for AI utilization professional development

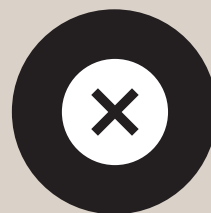


# Managing Academic Integrity & Cognitive Offloading

Requirement of teacher permission prior to using AI to assist in the completion of an assignment



Students have the right to refuse to use AI tools in the classroom if they would prefer to complete academic assignments independently



Requirement that schools adopt a policy practically describing how educational technology and student devices are and are not used in their district, which may look different at different grade levels.

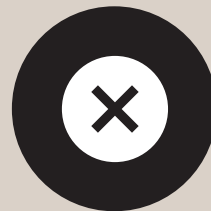


# Managing Academic Integrity & Cognitive Offloading

Establish or allow the NDDPI to establish not-to-exceed hour limits on the use of school issued educational technology at the elementary level



Prohibit elementary students from taking home school-issued devices unless there is a specific educational purpose



State procurement and requirement of school districts to use a device monitoring software solution to inform parents and educators





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**THANK  
YOU**