



August 22, 2024

The Honorable Maria D. Hernandez
Presiding Judge
Orange County Superior Court
700 Civic Center Drive West
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Re: Anaheim Union High School District's Response to the 2023-24 Orange County Grand Jury Report on *Use of Artificial Intelligence in Public Schools (K-12)*

To the Honorable Maria D. Hernandez:

The Anaheim Union High School District (AUHSD) commends the Grand Jury for its time and attention devoted to studying this very important issue and publishing the Grand Jury Report dated June 12, 2024 entitled: *Use of Artificial Intelligence in Public Schools (K-12)* (Report).

AUHSD has thoroughly reviewed and considered the Findings and Recommendations in the Report. In accordance with California Penal Code sections 933 and 933.05, the Grand Jury has requested that the District respond to Findings and Recommendations made in the Report. AUHSD responds to the Grand Jury's Findings and Recommendations with the following:

Finding 1

Orange County's K-12 public schools have implemented policies and/or guidelines around the use of different AI platforms in varying and inconsistent ways. Some prohibit AI's use; others allow it; and some don't have policies or guidelines governing AI at all.

AUHSD agrees with Finding 1 that suggests Orange County K-12 public schools need to build consistency and uniform ways in implementing policies and/or guidelines around the use of different AI platforms. Although AUHSD cannot comment on other districts' policies and/or guidelines around the use of AI platforms, as it pertains to the Anaheim Union High School District, AUHSD has implemented policies and guidelines around the use of AI in education through an AI Board Resolution, AI District Framework and Acceptable Use Policy.

Finding 2

Superintendents provide varying levels of support in implementing AI policies and/or guidelines in their respective school districts.

While AUHSD cannot speak to the level of support provided by other superintendents for AI implementation in their districts, within AUHSD, the Superintendent has prioritized high levels of support for AI use. This is demonstrated through the establishment of an AI Board Resolution and AI Framework, ongoing teacher professional learning opportunities, the annual AI K-12 Deeper Learning Summit, and partnerships with leaders in AI educational spaces.

Finding 3

There are many resources to guide educators in using AI. Several Are available at the local level through the Orange County Department of Education, Orange County Board of Education, CEO Leadership Alliance Orange County, and Orange Unified School District Technology Department, to name a few. However, utilization and even awareness of the availability of such resources is highly variable across school districts.

AUHSD acknowledges the finding that numerous resources exist to guide educators in using AI, many of which are available regionally. However, AUHSD cannot speak to the utilization or awareness of these resources in other districts. Within AUHSD, the district has leveraged resources from aiEDU, Digital Promise, Kapor Foundation, Orange County Department of Education, CEO Leadership Alliance Orange County, AI in Education, eKandence, and the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). The district continues to utilize and communicate the availability of AI resources to educators districtwide through curriculum specialists, technology coaches, department chairs, administrators, and teacher leaders, including those involved in district and site-level professional development.

Recommendation 1

By June 30, 2025 Orange County's K-12 schools should implement policies and guidelines regarding the appropriate use of AI. These may be provided at the district level or within individual schools through the adoption of an Acceptable Use Policy, Code of Ethics, or other written directives addressing the use of AI.

AUHSD is already taking steps to implement this recommendation and is committed to full implementation by June 30, 2025. To achieve this, the District has developed the following action plan:

- The AI Task Force will update the existing AI Framework to reflect the latest developments and best practices in AI.
- The Task Force will also draft a comprehensive AI Board Policy to provide clear guidance and governance for AI use within the District.
- Additionally, the Acceptable Use Policy will be revised to include specific provisions related to AI, ensuring that students and staff understand their rights and responsibilities when using AI tools.

Recommendation 2

Superintendents should ensure that their schools have policies that cover, at a minimum: the scope, guiding principles, and training regarding the responsible use of AI tools by students and teachers; any prohibited uses of special considerations regarding AI tools; and related security, privacy, and safety considerations.

To implement the recommendation by June 30, 2025, the Superintendent will take the following actions:

- The Student Services department will update the Acceptable Use Policy to include AI guidelines and safeguards, ensuring ethical and responsible AI use by students.
- Teachers will receive support through the annual AI K12 Deeper Learning Summit and districtwide AI lessons in eKadence (Learning Management System). Lessons will be vetted by the district office for appropriate use.
- Any AI software must be vetted through the AUHSD Instructional Software Resource (ISR) Request to ensure that the software aligns with the District's guidelines for student data privacy and aligns with the educational goals of the District.

Recommendation 3

K-12 students should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.

K-12 students should receive comprehensive training on the appropriate use of AI. To fulfill this recommendation by June 30, 2025, AUHSD will implement the following action plan:

- **Development of eKadence Modules:** The District will create interactive modules within eKadence (the District Learning Management System) to deliver structured instruction on AI use. These modules will cater to all students and cover essential topics such as AI ethics, responsible use guidelines, and critical thinking skills for evaluating AI-generated content.
- **Creation and Utilization of AI Lessons:** AUHSD will develop new lessons and leverage existing resources like the AI Literacy Lessons from Common Sense Education to ensure

comprehensive coverage of AI concepts across all grade levels. These lessons will be integrated into the curriculum to provide students with a strong foundation in AI literacy.

- Ongoing Reinforcement and Assessment: The training will not be a one-time event but will be reinforced throughout the students' academic journey. Regular assessments will be conducted to gauge students' understanding and application of AI principles.

Recommendation 4

K-12 teachers should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.

AUHSD is committed to providing comprehensive training for K-12 teachers on the appropriate use of AI. To achieve this, the District will implement a multi-faceted action plan by June 30, 2025:

- Leveraging District Training Platforms: Teachers will be required to complete a foundational training course on AI through district-supported platforms such as Keenan, Coursera Google Certifications, or Generative AI for Educators through Grow with Google. These courses will cover essential topics like AI ethics, effective classroom integration, and student data privacy considerations.
- Ongoing Professional Development: Beyond the initial training, AUHSD will offer continuous professional development opportunities throughout the school year. These sessions will delve deeper into AI applications, emerging trends, and best practices for using AI to enhance teaching and learning.
- Tailored Support and Resources: Recognizing the diverse needs of teachers, the District will provide targeted support and resources to facilitate AI implementation in various subject areas and grade levels. This may include workshops, coaching, and curated materials aligned with curriculum standards.
- Collaboration and Knowledge Sharing: AUHSD will foster a collaborative learning community where teachers can share their experiences, insights, and challenges related to AI integration. This will promote innovation and ensure that best practices are disseminated across the district.

Recommendation 5

Schools and educators should be encouraged to collaborate with the various available AI consortiums and think tanks, such as OCDE and CLAOC, to effectively implement AI and establish basic tenets for its use.

AUHSD has already taken significant steps to foster collaboration between schools, educators, and AI consortiums and think tanks. The District has actively encouraged and facilitated partnerships with organizations such as aiEDU, AI in Education, CLAOC, Digital Promise, eKadence, International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE), Kapor Foundation, Orange County Department of Education (OCDE), and UCI School of Education. These collaborations

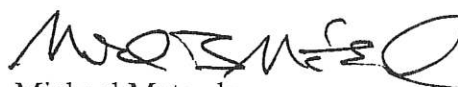
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have provided valuable insights, resources, and professional development opportunities for educators, supporting them in effectively integrating AI into their teaching practices.

Moving forward, AUHSD will further strengthen these partnerships and seek new collaborative opportunities. The District will continue to encourage educators to actively engage with AI leaders in education, participate in conferences and workshops, and contribute to the ongoing development of AI best practices. This collaborative approach will ensure that AUHSD remains at the forefront of AI implementation and effectively leverages AI to enhance teaching and learning for all students.

Please accept the information provided herein as AUHSD's responses to the Orange County Grand Jury's Factual Findings and Recommendation in the Report. Once again, we appreciate the time and attention that the Grand Jury devoted to this very important issue.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael Matsuda". The signature is stylized and cursive.

Michael Matsuda
Anaheim Union High School District Superintendent