

Due Date: September 13, 2024

Orange County Grand Jury  
700 Civic Center Drive West  
Santa Ana, CA 92701

Dear Orange County Grand Jury,

In compliance with California Penal Code Sections 933 and 933.05, the Tustin Unified School District (TUSD) offers the following response to the Grand Jury findings and recommendations based on their investigation, *“Use of Artificial Intelligence in K-12 Public Schools (K-12), It’s Not Elementary” (Report)*.

Please see below for the responses to each Finding (1,2, and 3) as required in the Orange County Grand Jury report and attached cover letter released June 13, 2024.

Finding		Response	Explanation (if Required)
<b>F1</b>	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.	TUSD partially disagrees with this finding.	<p>TUSD is unable to speak to what other school districts across Orange County have implemented with regard to policy and/or guidelines surrounding the use of AI platforms.</p> <p>TUSD has participated in several workshops involving OC school districts on the topic of AI and has developed draft guidance surrounding AI use.</p>

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<p><b>F2</b></p>	<p>Superintendents provide varying levels of support in implementing AI policies and/or guidelines in their respective school districts.</p>	<p>TUSD partially disagrees with this finding.</p>	<p>TUSD is unable to speak to the efficacy of superintendents in other school districts as they attempt to support their constituencies in the implementation of AI policies and/or guidelines.</p> <p>TUSD's Superintendent has been highly effective in encouraging staff to learn about emerging technologies including AI, recommending a task force to study the impact AI will have on our District, and supporting the development of local guidelines on AI use for TUSD.</p>
<p><b>F3</b></p>	<p>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.</p>	<p>TUSD partially disagrees with this finding.</p>	<p>TUSD is unable to speak to the level of awareness exhibited by other districts regarding access to resources on the topic of AI from the provided sources.</p> <p>TUSD has taken part in workshops provided by Orange County Department of Education and attended activities involving AI facilitated by the CEO Leadership Alliance Orange County.</p>

Please see below for the responses to each Recommendation (1, 2, 3, 4 and 5) as required in the Orange County Grand Jury report and attached cover letter dated June 13, 2024.

Recommendation		Action	Explanation
<b>R1</b>	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.	The recommendation has been implemented.	TUSD has created draft guidelines for the use of emerging technologies including AI. This initial document was created with recommendations from industry experts, OCDE, CLAOC and our TUSD AI Task Force that met throughout the 2023-24 school year. TUSD has an acceptable use agreement in place for all staff and students that contains language encompassing the proper use of emerging technologies. Further, TUSD has appropriate disciplinary policies and academic honesty policies to properly support the use of emerging technologies.



<b>R2</b>	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 or special considerations regarding AI tools; and related security, privacy, and safety considerations.	The recommendation has been implemented.	TUSD has created draft guidelines for the use of emerging technologies including AI. This document, in conjunction with existing acceptable use agreements, disciplinary and academic honesty policies will provide enough guidance for TUSD stakeholders to be successful in navigating emerging technologies like AI. Technology related training (including the proper use of AI) for students and staff will continue to be conducted through both the Ed Tech Team, AI Task Force, and iDEA Team in TUSD; and through the use of customized training materials based on those provided by Common Sense Media.
<b>R3</b>	K-12 students should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.	The recommendation has already been implemented.	TUSD will continue to study the evolution of AI in education and adjust training for students as needed. TUSD has a training program in place for all students in the use of digital tools through a customized program built on materials provided by Common Sense Media.

<b>R4</b>	K-12 teachers should be trained on the appropriate use of AI.	The recommendation has already been implemented.	TUSD will continue to study the evolution of AI in education and adjust training for teachers and staff as needed. TUSD has begun studying AI and training teachers through our iDEA Team and AI Task Force in the 2023-24 school year.
<b>R5</b>	Schools and educators should be encouraged to collaborate with the various AI consortiums and think tanks, such as OCDE and CLAOC, to effectively implement AI and establish basic tenets for its use.	The recommendation has already been implemented.	TUSD staff has significant efforts underway to study the impact of emerging technologies like AI in schools. This is evidenced through the work of our AI Task Force and iDEA Teams. Further, TUSD staff takes part in OCDE workshops on AI, participates in the CLAOC activities involving the use of AI, and attends conferences including AI topics such as the AIR show in San Diego.

Please do not hesitate to contact us if you have any questions or concerns.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



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