

Watertown School District 14-4**USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE TECHNOLOGY**

This policy sets parameters for utilization of artificial intelligence (AI) technology within the District, by students and employees. The purpose of this policy is to ensure fair and equitable academic assessments, promote critical thinking, and maintain an equal playing field for all students.

AI technology includes any form of digital content, such as text, images, videos or audio, that is created by artificial intelligence systems without direct human intervention. These AI systems use advanced algorithms and machine learning techniques, natural language processing, or automated decision-making systems to generate content that mimics human creativity and decision-making processes. AI technology tools include resources such as ChatGPT, Google Bard, and other AI content generator products.

Student Use

Students are prohibited from incorporating AI technology into their assignments or projects, unless instructional staff tells students that AI can be used for a specific assignment, portion of assignment, or project. Student assignments and projects must rely solely on human effort and intellect.

Students must uphold the principles of academic integrity by submitting work that is solely their own, demonstrating their knowledge, skills and abilities acquired through personal effort and study. The use of AI technology in assignments and projects undermines the authenticity and individuality of students' work.

Students are encouraged to explore and utilize a wide range of technological tools and resources that are not AI-dependent to enhance their assignments and projects. This includes traditional research methods, computer programs, software applications, and other non-AI-based tools that support academic learning and creativity. AI technology may be used for clarification or explanations to understand complex texts or to assist in brainstorming ideas, topics, and writing prompts. Any such use should be cited. Students may not pass off any AI technology as their own work, such as by copying text or images from AI programs without proper attribution. Text or images copied directly from AI generated content must be properly cited. Other uses of AI must be clearly described at the end of the assignment or project.

If instructional staff allow student use of AI technology in connection with a specific project or assignment, students must use AI only as permitted. Students must disclose the AI tool used, and attribute and cite AI text and images properly when used in the student's work.

A student who uses AI technology without permission, who uses it in an improper way, or who otherwise violates this policy will constitute a violation of the District's code of conduct, cheating,

plagiarism, and/or academic dishonesty policy, and/or provisions stated in the student handbook, and will be subject to student discipline.

Staff Use

The District recognizes that staff may use AI technology to assist in tasks such as creating lesson plans, augmenting grading efficiency and consistency, designing assignments, and streamlining administrative tasks. However, overreliance on AI technology is discouraged. Instructional staff should be mindful of concerns around the use of AI products such as student privacy, data privacy and security, plagiarism, bias, equity considerations, academic integrity, misinformation and inaccuracies based on the data used to train the AI generated content.

Instructional staff using AI technology must insure that the AI technology tool complies with the District's security and privacy policies and federal and state laws and regulations, including but not limited to the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA).

Allowing student use of AI technology in a specific assignment or project must be to support or enhance students' learning and critical thinking, not bypass or replace it. If students are instructed that they may use AI in an assignment or project, instructional staff must first communicate to the students the extent to which students may use AI technology for that specific project or assignment and the opportunities and prohibited uses of AI tools. Students should be instructed on the potential risks of using AI and what responsible use looks like, including safety cautions about sharing personal data with AI platforms. Instructional staff should also communicate to students that AI programs can have implicit bias, and will be time-constrained as most AI platforms do not have data for the last 24 months, and that students should think critically and fact-check using primary sources, as AI can generate fake results.

Policy

Adopted: 1/25

Watertown School District 14-4

GRADUATION REQUIREMENTS/EARLY GRADUATION

The Watertown School District recognizes that, under Administrative Rules of South Dakota, all students in grades 9 through 12 must have a Personal Learning Plan. The Watertown School District requires 24 credits to graduate from Watertown High School.

	Class of 2024-Class of 2028	Class of 2029 and future classes
English/Language Arts	4.0	4.0
Mathematics	3.0	3.0
Science	3.0	3.0
Speech/Debate	.5	.5
Social Studies	3.0	3.5
Fine Arts	1.0	1.0
Economics or Personal Finance	.5	.5
Physical Education	.5	.5
Health/Health Integration	.5 unless earned in grades 7-8	.5 unless earned in grades 7-8
Career & Technical Education, World Language, or Capstone	1.0	1.0
Electives	7.5	7.0
Total	24.0	24.0

Students who do not meet the graduation requirements will not be permitted to participate in graduation exercises.

Early Graduation

Students at Watertown High School are encouraged to remain in school for the full four academic years. The Watertown School Board acknowledges a multitude of online, dual credit, and AP courses available to students for their academic endeavors to fulfill four full years of high school. However, students considering early graduation need to meet the following criteria.

- A. Student must complete an audit of course requirements with their school counselor to determine if all required course credits have been completed, or can be completed to graduate early.
- B. Student must present a written request to the building principal, justifying the reasons for early graduation, as well as a completed teacher feedback form from a current WHS teacher. Both must be submitted by May 1st, prior to the intended graduation date.
- C. The building principal will arrange a conference with the parents/guardian and student, and the early graduation request will be decided upon by the building's principal before the start of the requested graduation year.

Early graduates may not attend or participate in school events as Watertown High School students after they have early graduated and their grades have been transcribed. However, if the student chooses to walk in the graduation ceremony, they may do so provided they allow the principal's office to hold their diploma and attend the practice session prior to the graduation ceremony.

Legal Refs: ARSD 24:03:06:06:01

Policy

Adopted: 4/13/98

Revised: 2/8/99; 3/13/00; 1/8/01; 8/12/02; 1/10/05; 1/9/06; 1/8/07; 1/10/11; 3/10/14; 12/12/16; 1/25