

A Checklist for Fostering Effective and Safe Integration of AI within PL Environments

The checklist of actionable steps below is from the *AI in Professional Learning: Navigating Opportunities and Challenges for Educators* report and serves as a starting point for integrating AI into professional learning environments.

PL Organizations

- **Facilitate Sustained Partnerships**
Foster partnerships between districts, PL providers, developers, and researchers.
- **Offer Support and Resources**
Provide districts with resources to develop strategic plans for AI integration.
- **Start Small and Be Strategic**
Have a strategic approach for AI implementation that supports a fleshed-out theory of change.
- **Consider IP and In-House Development**
Explore developing AI tools in-house to retain control of intellectual property.
- **Promote AI as a Complement**
Highlight AI as a complement to, not a replacement for, traditional PL.
- **Share Best Practices**
Disseminate knowledge of successful AI implementations and best practices across the PL field.

AI Researchers

- **Develop Strategies for Balancing AI Benefits and Human Expertise**
Study how to leverage AI while preserving the essential role of teachers and coaches.
- **Evaluate AI Tools' Impact on Adult Learning**
Assess the effectiveness of AI tools on teacher outcomes and explore how AI can optimize teacher learning processes.
- **Create Solutions to Avoid Over-Reliance on AI-Driven PL Tools**
Ensure AI tools support PL, especially in underserved areas.
- **Foster Participatory Research-Practice Partnerships to Better Study AI**
Establish research-practice partnerships with under-resourced school districts to provide AI tools and support.

District Leaders

- **Take a Balanced Approach**
Value the unique contributions of teachers while leveraging AI tools to enhance efficiency and effectiveness in teaching and learning.
- **Develop District Policies Around AI**
Establish clear district policies and guidelines regarding the procurement, implementation, and use of AI technologies in educational settings. Ensure stakeholder input to align guidance with community values.
- **Align Technology and PL Infrastructure**
Conduct a needs assessment and align technology with PL infrastructure to support teacher learning.
- **Dedicate Time for AI Literacy**
Allocate structured time for teachers and instructional coaches to explore AI technology and build AI literacy.
- **Beware of Misleading Claims**
Be cautious of AI tool providers' claims and consult with tech specialists during the selection and implementation process.
- **Invest in Technology Leadership**
Involve tech specialists in decision-making processes related to AI tool selection and implementation. Allocate resources for district personnel to acquire teaching and AI certifications from reputable sources.
- **Monitor Implementation**
Evaluate the impact and effectiveness of AI tools in teacher PL.

Funders

- **Promote Equitable Access**
Implement initiatives to promote equitable access to AI tools.
- **Support Research Partnerships**
Fund research partnerships with under-resourced districts for access to AI tools and support.
- **Encourage Collaboration**
Foster collaboration among districts, developers, and researchers to ensure development and implementation of effective AI tools.
- **Monitor Impact and Accountability**
Require impact reports from grantees to inform future funding decisions.

State and Federal Policymakers

- **Develop Clear Guidelines**
Establish a framework addressing the legal use of AI-supported tools in education, with input from educators and a particular emphasis on data privacy, informed consent, and equity promotion.
- **Regulate AI Tools and Data Practices**
Define dos and don'ts for AI tools and data practices involving teacher and student Personally Identifiable Information.
- **Support Research**
Fund research on the impact of AI on teacher learning to inform policies and regulations.
- **Promote Awareness**
Educate districts about AI regulations to reduce ambiguity and encourage adoption.

AI Developers

- **Adhere to an AI Bill of Rights**
Incorporate [AI Bill of Rights](#) recommendations when developing AI tools.
- **Ground in Learning Theory**
Design AI tools based on learning sciences and a clear theory of change.
- **Customize Solutions**
Collaborate with educators to design AI tools that address their needs.
- **Promote Equitable Access**
Implement initiatives to ensure all districts have access to AI tools.
- **Implement Methods to Assess AI Biases**
Conduct equity audits to ensure fairness in AI tools.
- **Support Research**
Collaborate with educational institutions to research the effectiveness of AI in PL.
- **Ensure Product Efficacy**
Provide clear evidence on the efficacy of AI tools.