

AI IN EDUCATION: THE IMPLEMENTATION ERA



December 11, 2025

8:30 – 8:40 a.m.

Welcome and introductions

8:40 – 9:25 a.m.

Guiding AI Integration in K-12 Classrooms

Presenters from the Southern Regional Education Board:

- *Leslie Eaves, Program Director for Project-Based Learning*
- *Ivy Cowburn, Division Director, Education and Workforce*

As artificial intelligence transforms education, schools face exciting opportunities and critical challenges in integrating AI into student learning. This session introduces the Pillars for AI Use in the K-12 Classroom, a practical framework to help educational leaders make ethical, informed decisions about AI implementation. Attendees will learn how these pillars enhance student learning while safeguarding instructional integrity and data privacy. Presenters will share a procurement process and tool designed to support districts in selecting AI technologies that align with their instructional goals and meet regulatory requirements.

9:25 – 10:10 a.m.

From Curiosity to Action: A Practical Road Map for AI Adoption in K-12

Presenter from SchoolAI:

- *Blasia Dunham, Community Coach*

As artificial intelligence begins to shape the future of education, instructional leaders face a key question: how do we begin without overwhelming staff? This session offers a leadership-level road map for responsibly introducing AI in schools. Designed for instructional coaches and district administration, the session will focus on practical strategies, rather than a technical deep-dive, to guide responsible adoption of AI tools. The session explores a three-phase framework – exploration, evaluation and early implementation – with real-world examples, common missteps and actionable strategies to build momentum and credibility as your schools develop AI resources. Attendees will learn a clear AI adoption framework, including how to form an AI committee, pilot with a targeted group and prepare for broader use. With an outline of practical steps for the next few months to begin responsible AI exploration, administrators will discover how to design small, high-impact adoption to build confidence, support staff and demonstrate value. Finally, the session will highlight how to recognize and sidestep the top mistakes districts make when starting AI tool development to keep educators engaged and supported from the start.

10:10 – 10:55 a.m.

Beyond the Hype: Why Implementing AI Successfully Requires Human-Centered Education

Presenter:

- *Timothy Cook, M.Ed., AI Professional Development Leader / Psychology Today Columnist / International Educator*

Drawing on MIT neuroscience studies, Anthropic usage data and World Economic Forum workforce projections for 2030, this session reveals the cognitive crisis subtly emerging from current AI usage patterns. Studies show that 76% of student interactions with AI replace higher-order thinking – a skill essential for future workforce success. Neuroscience research and data further indicate progressive cognitive dependency and memory formation breakdown over the same time period. This session offers research-backed guidance on implementing AI in K-12 education. It will highlight the risks of AI dependency and contrasts efficiency-driven approaches with human-centered strategies. Attendees will explore curriculum design that may protect cognitive development while leveraging AI's legitimate capabilities and gain the foundation needed to guide governance in sustainable, student-centered AI implementation in their district.

AI IN EDUCATION: THE IMPLEMENTATION ERA



December 11, 2025

11:00 – 11:45 a.m.

District AI Readiness: Practical Strategies for Systemic Impact

Presenter from aiEDU:

- *Christian Pinedo, Vice President of External Affairs and Advocacy*

What does it truly mean to be AI-ready, and what does it look like when a school district takes it seriously? This session goes beyond the buzzwords to explore practical tools, structures and leadership strategies that support sustainable, systemwide change. Drawing on aiEDU's work with districts nationwide, presenters will examine real-world case studies and share actionable steps your district can implement now. Attendees will leave with a clearer understanding of how to translate AI readiness into district policy, planning and student-centered outcomes.

11:45 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.

Learning and Leading with AI: Lessons from the Field

Presenters:

- *Oliver Dreon, Ph.D., Professor of Educational Foundations, Millersville University of Pennsylvania*
- *Matt Vannoy, Vice President, PSBA Governing Board | School Board Director, Sharon City School District (Mercer Co.) | Principal, Conneaut School District (Crawford Co.)*

In this session, attendees will learn about the Foundational AI for School Leaders certificate program created in partnership between the PSBA Institute's Center for AI in Education and Millersville University. School leaders will share their experiences with the course and how they have applied the content in the work with their districts.

12:15 – 12:30 p.m.

Closing remarks

AI IN EDUCATION: THE IMPLEMENTATION ERA



December 11, 2025

Leslie Eaves

Program Director for Project-Based Learning, Southern Regional Education Board

Leslie Eaves is the program director for Project-Based Learning at the Southern Regional Education Board (SREB), where she leads initiatives that empower educators to design engaging, real-world learning experiences for students. With more than 22 years of experience in K-12 education, Leslie brings a distinctive blend of industry knowledge and instructional expertise to her work. She began her career as a chemical engineer before transitioning into education as a high school technology teacher. In her career, she has served in a variety of roles, including school magnet coordinator, instructional coach and director of professional learning. In her current role, Leslie collaborates with instructional coaches to plan and deliver high-quality professional learning and coaching experiences for teachers seeking to provide meaningful, authentic learning opportunities for their students. Most recently, she has served on SREB's Commission on Artificial Intelligence in Education, where she co-leads the K-12 Instruction Subcommittee. Leslie is a contributing author of *Guidance for the Use of AI in the K-12 Classroom*, a resource designed to help educators navigate the ethical and effective integration of AI in schools, along with its companion toolkit, *AI Tool Procurement, Implementation, and Evaluation*.

Blasia Dunham

Community Coach, SchoolAI

Blasia Dunham is a community coach at SchoolAI, where she supports educators in New Jersey and Pennsylvania as they integrate AI tools into everyday teaching. With 14 years of experience in education as an English teacher (grades 7-12) and technology integration specialist, Blasia brings deep classroom insight and tech expertise to her work. She leads professional development, builds strong school partnerships, and helps turn AI's potential into meaningful, inspiring classroom practice. A semifinalist for AI Educator of the Year, Blasia is a passionate advocate for innovation in teaching. Her work focuses on turning hesitation into confidence and making technology approachable and purposeful. She believes the right tools, paired with the right support, can transform not just how educators teach, but how they feel about teaching.

Timothy Cook, M.Ed.

AI Professional Development Leader | *Psychology Today* Columnist | International Educator

Timothy Cook, M.Ed., is an educator and researcher investigating how artificial intelligence is reshaping student cognition, creativity and moral development. With over a decade of international teaching experience across five countries, Timothy explores how algorithmic tools can erode critical thinking while creating shortcuts that bypass authentic learning. Through his *Psychology Today* column, "The Algorithmic Mind," and other publications, Timothy explored the hidden cognitive risks of AI dependency in education and shared research-based strategies for preserving human-centered learning. His work focuses on helping educators to harness AI's potential without compromising the nuance, creativity and ethical reasoning that define human intelligence. Timothy's research addresses two pressing questions: 1) how does AI change the way students think, and 2) what happens when children rely on algorithms for high-level reasoning? His writing has been featured in *Impact Entrepreneur*, *Chalkbeat* and *The Business of Enterprise AI*, and he regularly presents on the unautomatable human capacities that give learning its meaning.

Christian Pinedo

Vice President of External Affairs and Advocacy, aiEDU

Christian Pinedo serves as the vice president of external affairs and advocacy at aiEDU, where he leads strategic initiatives to convene stakeholders, inform systemic change and amplify the organization's voice in the national AI education landscape. He works closely with school districts, NGOs, policymakers and funders to ensure AI literacy and readiness are prioritized at the local, state and federal levels and to drive meaningful change. In addition to his role at aiEDU, Christian serves on the California Department of Education's AI in Education Workgroup, is a board member for Small Steps for Change, and contributes to several national advisory committees around AI and education. Previously, Christian developed education programs at the Stanford Institute for Human-Centered AI, collaborating with multidisciplinary communities to pursue AI research and address its societal implications. His career began as a STEM educator in San Diego.

Oliver Dreon, Ph.D.

Professor of Educational Foundations, Millersville University of Pennsylvania

Oliver Dreon, Ph.D., is a professor of educational foundations at Millersville University of Pennsylvania, where he teaches a variety of education and instructional technology courses in face-to-face and online formats. He is the co-author of *Authentic Instruction with Technology: A Student-Centered Approach*, *The Power of Blended Learning in the Sciences*, and *The Educator Ethics and Conduct Toolkit*. In addition to his work in instructional technology, he has co-edited the book *Teacher Education for Ethical Professional Practices in the 21st Century*. He is the primary author of the online course *AI Essentials for Future Teachers*, offered by the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE). Oliver has previously worked as a middle school and high school teacher and has spent more than 30 years teaching in various educational environments. He regularly provides professional development and consultation on online and blended learning, instructional technology and generative artificial intelligence (GenAI). His work examines how technology can be used to support student development through physical, online and hybrid learning spaces. Oliver was selected as the 2024 Teacher Educator of the Year by the Pennsylvania Association of Colleges of Teacher Education (PAC-TE).

Matt Vannoy

Vice President, PSBA Governing Board | School Director, Sharon City School District (Mercer Co.) | Principal, Conneaut School District (Crawford Co.)

Matt Vannoy is the vice president of the PSBA Governing Board, a school board director in the Sharon City School District in Mercer County, and a principal in the Conneaut School District in Crawford County. In addition to his current roles, he has been a social studies teacher, athletic director and assistant principal in the Farrell Area, Moniteau and Sharon City school districts. He is a member of the PIAA District 10 Committee, the PIAA Cross Country Steering Committee, the Slippery Rock University Alumni Association Board of Directors, several boards with the ARC of Mercer County and other local boards. In 2018, Matt was a recipient of the SRU Alumni Association's Distinguished Recent Alumni Award as well as the Mercer County Chamber of Commerce "40 Under 40" award. He graduated *summa cum laude* from Slippery Rock University in 2009 and earned his master's degree and Superintendent's Letter of Eligibility from Westminster College.