

Four Action Steps for AI in Education

AI has the power to solve issues in education or exacerbate them. From our white paper, “Wicked Opportunities: Leveraging AI to Transform Education,” CRPE recommends four next steps for policymakers, systems leaders, and others to drive positive action.

1 Convene and connect cross-sector leaders to strengthen AI literacy in support of education by...

- Hosting convenings to bring district leadership and diverse AI voices together.
- Bringing state and federal leaders from the U.S. to schools in other countries (South Korea, Singapore, etc.) that are tackling educational challenges with novel AI solutions.
- Designing an easy-to-understand “six-month roadmap” that would guide leaders through AI exploration.

3 Focus on the “art of the possible” to spread ideas that simplify AI adoption by...

- Encouraging AI uses both to improve the industrial-era grammar of school and to push beyond its current boundaries.
- Forming a collaborative of leading districts, charter schools, technical support organizations, researchers, and foundations. The collaborative’s mission would be to rethink and redesign schools and education systems for a world where generative AI is ubiquitous.
- Gathering use cases that work well enough to be adopted more widely, including improved translation and text-to-voice support for ELL students and parents, non-evaluative feedback, and summarizing pedagogical research for educators.
- Documenting use cases that involve “connections to humans,” including reducing teachers’ administrative workloads and curating student interests to boost engagement.

2 Seed a national education leadership strategy by...

- Creating a leadership network to drive change and develop a comprehensive strategy to connect leaders across the AI and education sectors.
- Designing a targeted leadership and demonstration strategy, beginning with out-of-system and “edge” cases. This will require connecting advocates and system leaders who represent students with diverse learning needs with edtech leaders.
- Creating and maintaining a landscape map of the different actors involved in AI in education and their actions. This might be accomplished through a wiki or similar collaborative online resource (perhaps even one created using AI).

4 Catalyze investment in research and development for early-stage AI adoptions, innovations, and collaborations by...

- Designing an “AI big bets” philanthropic fund that advances a clear vision for AI’s potential to reimagine teaching, learning, and students’ futures, especially for students who need learning acceleration or mental health support; bringing in diverse perspectives to fine-tune the fund’s priorities; using this fund to motivate philanthropic giving for the next five years and create use cases of early adopters and toolkits for next-stage adopters.
- Creating matching grants to incentivize state education offices to fund preliminary local conversations about AI between districts and their stakeholders. Districts can report back on data about participants and the next steps for further implementation.
- Building cross-collaborations and strengthening relationships to align philanthropic giving with emerging federal AI priorities.