GEC PAC Meeting
Wednesday, April 9th, 2025
@ 9:00am in the GEC Learning Commons

In attendance:

Emily Gardiner (Co-Chair, PAC)   Shevaun Brown

Amanda Clark (Co-Chair & Treasurer, PAC)   Corinne McLaughlin

Jess Jenkin (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)   Charlie Bradbury

Lauren Fuhre (Hot Lunch Coordinator, PAC)   Kirstie Simpson

Lisa Fairburn (DPAC rep, PAC)   Leanne Todd

Anna Stewart (Secretary, PAC)   Mike Clark

Robyn Evans (Principal, GEC)   Chris Kennedy (Superintendent, WVSD)

Heather Nelson

In Lieu of our regular PAC meeting we are pleased to host Superintendent Chris Kennedy to discuss AI use in West Vancouver schools. Special thanks to Superintendent Kennedy for this engaging and informative presentation.

Robyn Evans: Land Acknowledgement and introduction of Chris Kennedy, Superintendent of West Vancouver Schools.

Slide show to follow:

AI Unlocked: Practical Tools for Your Daily Life at Home and Beyond

Chris Kennedy

Friend

Three Types of AI

Reactive

-Responds to specific input without actually learning from past experiences
-Specific input always results in same output
-Roomba

Predictive

-Analyzes data to predict future events or behaviours
-Looking for patterns in data
-Spotify, Netflix

Generative

-Generates new content or outputs based on massive amounts of data
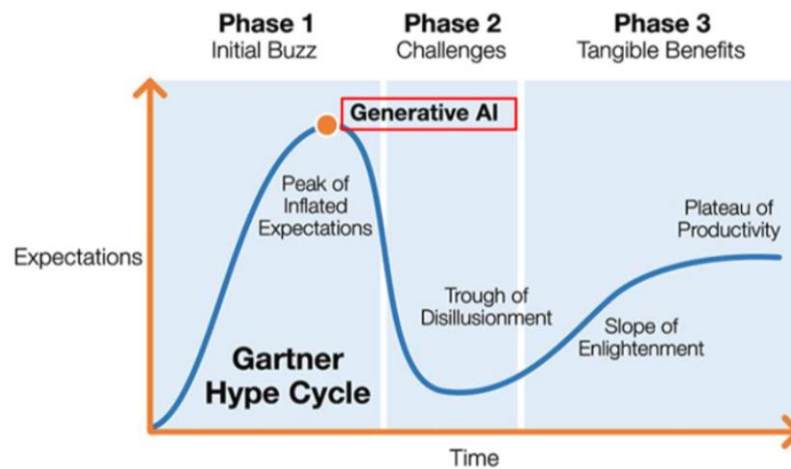-Large Language Module
-ChatGPT

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What is Generative AI?

Generative AI produces new content, such as text, music, images, and videos, by generating outputs based on patterns learned from existing data.

It leverages advanced algorithms to generate content autonomously, *mimicking* human-like intelligence and creativity.

Phase 1	**Phase 2**	**Phase 3**
Initial Buzz	Challenges	Tangible Benefits

Generative AI

Peak of Inflated Expectations

Plateau of Productivity

Expectations

Trough of Disillusionment

Slope of Enlightenment

Gartner Hype Cycle

Time

"We tend to overestimate the effect of a technology in the short run and underestimate the effect in the long run."
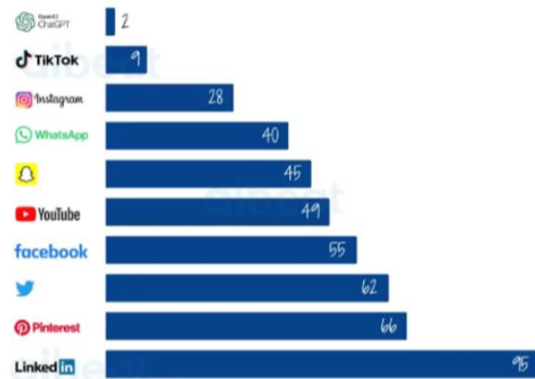(Amara's Law)

User Acceleration

Time to reach one million users from launch

Netflix 1999	3.5 years
Facebook 2004	10 months
Twitter 2006	2 years
Dropbox 2008	7 months
Spotify 2008	5 months
Instagram 2010	2.5 months
ChatGPT 2022	????

Source: Statista – ChatGPT Sprints to One Million Users

User Acceleration

Months famous consumer apps took to get to 100 million users

App	Months
ChatGPT	2
TikTok	9
Instagram	28
WhatsApp	40
Snapchat	45
YouTube	49
facebook	55
Twitter	62
Pinterest	66
LinkedIn	95

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Quick Draw

QUICK, DRAW!

Click Here to Draw

Real or AI?

Context of Generative AI in BC

Ministry of Education

Mnistry providing high level consistent messaging around generative AI with a number of supportive materials they have developed

The provincial government has given the nod that they acknowledge gen AI is part of our lives, and we need to consider its use throughout the school system.

School Districts

Set local policies and guidelines for use in schools

Adopted specific tools to be used and supported

Classrooms

We are using AI to help personalize learning, and offer additional supports and extensions for students. Seeing differences in use across grades and from class to class.

BRITISH COLUMBIA

Search 🔍   Menu ☰

AI, or Artificial Intelligence, encompasses the capacity of machines and computer systems to replicate human-like cognitive functions, including learning, problem-solving, decision-making, and utilizing algorithms and data.

Ethical, responsible, and safe use of AI in K-12 education requires a human-centered approach that prioritizes meaningful learning experiences. The integration of AI, when thoughtfully applied, has the potential to enrich our education system by streamlining administrative tasks, enhancing efficiency, and enabling a dedicated focus on student-centered activities. While AI can act as a supplementary tool and offer enrichment and depth to classroom practices, choices about the use of AI in the classroom are ultimately made by teachers based on the needs of the students.

Education, by its nature, is relational, especially when emphasizing the irreplaceable and integral role of human

Considerations for Using AI Tools in K-12 Schools

Needs and Impacts · Accessibility and Usability · Integration and Compatibility · Data Security and Privacy · Teaching and Learning · Inclusive Learning · Ethical Uses

How West Vancouver has tried to get out in front

- Make someone the lead
- Select a small number of tools to support
- Engaged everyone – especially parents
- Established AI Principles
- Talked about it and modeled its use
- Brought in outside experts
- Joined various local, national and international networks around it

Establish safe habits, educated use and guidelines to follow, regardless of tool.

Guiding Principles

WEST VANCOUVER - CORE VALUES & GUIDING PRINCIPLES

Excellence: Guiding Principle: Ensure high-quality AI systems

We commit to excellence by ensuring that any AI systems we implement are of the highest quality. This means using reliable, accurate, and effective AI technologies that enhance educational outcomes and administrative processes.

Inclusivity: Guiding Principle: Promote fairness and equity in AI

Inclusivity aligns with promoting fairness and equity in AI. We ensure that AI tools are designed and used to provide equal learning opportunities for all students, reflecting the diversity in our community and preventing any form of bias or discrimination.

Accountability: Guiding Principle: Ensure transparency, accountability and ethical use in AI use

We maintain accountability by making our AI processes and decisions transparent. This includes being clear about how AI systems are used, what data is collected, and how decisions are made, ensuring trust and integrity and ethical responsibility in our AI initiatives.

Authenticity: Guiding Principle: Provide meaningful and relevant AI experiences.

Authenticity in education is reflected in providing meaningful and relevant learning experiences through AI. We use AI to create real-world applications and enhance the authenticity of educational content, ensuring it resonates with students and prepares them for future challenges.

Innovation: Guiding Principle: Encourage innovation and creativity in AI

We pursue innovation by fostering a spirit of curiosity and inquiry in AI. This involves exploring new AI technologies and methodologies to enhance teaching and learning, encouraging creative problem-solving and forward-thinking in our educational practices.

Engagement: Guiding Principle: Foster community involvement and collaboration in AI.

Engagement is about building relationships and encouraging input, which aligns with fostering community involvement in AI. We actively involve students, parents, educators, and community members in discussions and decisions about AI, ensuring collaborative development and implementation.

Happiness: Guiding Principle: Promote well-being and positive impact through AI.

Happiness and well-being are essential, and we aim to use AI to support these values. This means using AI to enhance the educational experience, making learning more engaging and enjoyable, and ensuring that AI contributes positively to the mental and physical well-being of students and staff.

By aligning our core values with these guiding principles for AI, we ensure that our use of AI technologies in education is ethical, effective, and enriching for all members of our school community.

An example

WEST VANCOUVER SCHOOLS
GUIDELINES FOR THE USE OF AI

Use district approved AI tools in a way that is consistent with school expectations.

Follow your teachers guidelines on when and how to use AI to support your learning.

Use AI tools to support your learning and understanding, not to do the work for you.

Maintain your academic integrity - if you use AI tools to help you, make sure you say so.

Protect your privacy - do not enter any personal or private information into the AI tools.

Remember that AI tools occasionally produce biased or inaccurate information. Check for it.

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A world of opportunity

WHEN DO I USE AI?

No AI	Idea Starter	Feedback Helper	Work Partner
You may not use AI	You can use AI to brainstorm, generate ideas and develop outlines	You can use AI to edit and get feedback, refine original thinking and revise your work	AI is your partner, you can use AI to interact and collaborate on your work

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Indigenous Protocols & AI

Practicing Protocols

Following traditions and protocols are very important to Indigenous Ways of Knowing and Being. Protocol is how we ensure teachings are carried forward in a good way. Each type of work has its own set of protocols to follow (speaking in a circle, harvesting, sharing stories, ceremonial work, working with Elders, and asking permission to come onshore).

Protocols are specific to each Nation and will vary amongst the Coast Salish peoples. When sharing Indigenous knowledge you share where the teaching is from (what Nation), who shared the knowledge with you, and who gave you permission to share it. This ensures that we are using authentic stories, teachings, and world views.

Indigenous Nations have oral traditions, which means knowledge is carried in the embodied actions of the speaker. Stories need to be shared in ways that respect embodied teachings because this ensures knowledge is carried forward in a good way.
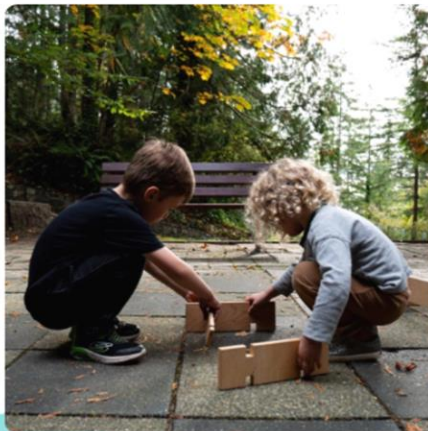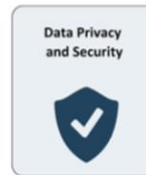
At this time AI does not follow Indigenous Protocols. AI cannot ask permission, share where teachings come from, source only from authentic resources, or recreate embodied knowledge. Therefore using AI to create Indigenous lessons is cultural appropriation.

"These tools do not authentically complement our teachings" - Dr. Gwendolyn Point, Shoysqwelwhet

Please do not use AI with Indigenous knowledge until the Nation you are sharing the information from has given specific permission. Using AI without specific permission exploits, extracts, and damages important relationships. This fosters stereotypes and biases which harm reconciliation efforts.

We use protocols with our tools because this honours our relationships and ensures those relationships will endure. Using tools without respecting protocols is cultural appropriation and exploitation.

Possible Concerns

Bias and Discrimination	Dependence on Technology	Data Privacy and Security	Academic Miscondcut

Ironically, by integrating generative AI tools in schools we might empower ourselves to focus less on screens and more on human connection, simplifying tasks so that technology becomes a supporting player rather than the main act.

How do we view adoption of AI?

USE IT FOR YOURSELF IN YOUR NON-PROFESSIONAL LIFE

USE IT TO SUPPORT YOU AS A PROFESSIONAL

USE IT WITH STUDENTS

HAVE STUDENTS CREATE IN IT INDEPENDENTLY

30 Ways Real People are Using AI Right Now

(The New York Times) Nutrionist, Travel planner, Gardener, Trainer, Friendly learner

Plan gardens	Organize a messy computer desktop	Build a clock that gives you a new poem every minute	Transcribe a doctor's visit into clinical notes	Learn Chinese	Build entirely new games
Plan workouts	Write a wedding speech	Organize research for a thesis	Appeal an insurance denial	Get help when English is your second language	Teach people to curl like a pro
Plan meals	Write an email	Skim dozens of academic articles	Write excel formulas	Create an app when you've never coded before	Create new proteins in minutes
Make a gift	Get a first read	Cope with ADHD and dyslexia	Get feedback on fiction	Fix bugs in your code	Identify diseases in banana plants
Support Services Use Cases	Play devil's advocate	Sort through an archive of pictures	Get homework help	Play pong or 3D games	Draw like Sol LeWitt

How have you or could you use AI?

What are some non-work ways you have or could use an AI tool in your life?

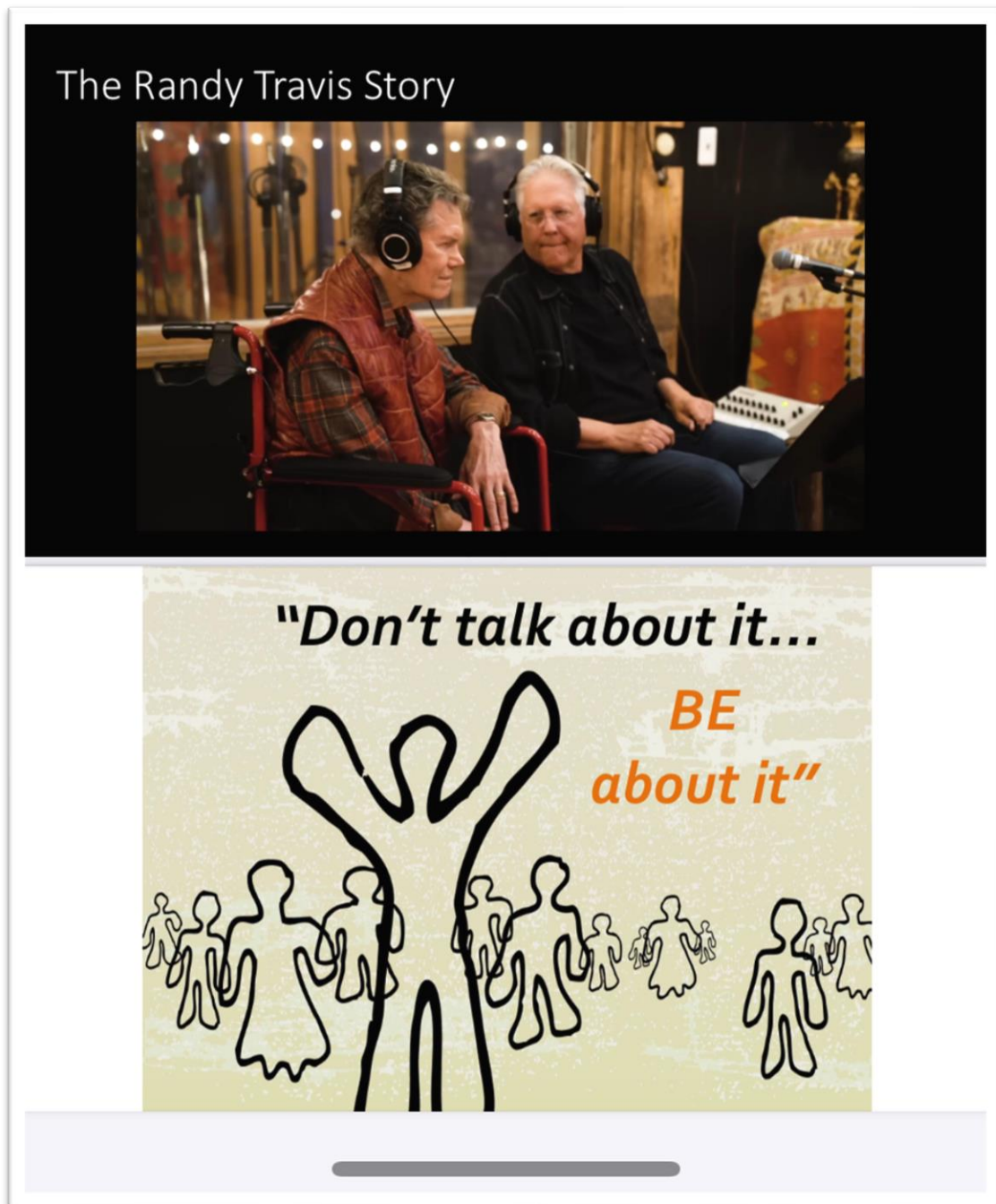## It does actually impact everyone

- Trustees and Senior Leaders
- Business Operations
- Teachers and Students
- Parents and the community

What could be a good prompt?

- Can you create a fun scavenger hunt for my 9-year-old that teaches them about math, reading, and problem solving?
- Can you write a short, silly story where the main character has to use science to solve a mystery?
- Make a fun 10-question quiz about animals (or space, dinosaurs, geography, etc.) that's just right for a 10year-old and includes jokes or fun facts.
- Can you give us 5 creative drawing challenges that secretly help with math skills?
- My child loves [LEGO/dancing/hockey/art/etc.]. Can you suggest 3 fun learning activities we could do together that connect to that interest?

So, what tools do I use?

- Chat GPT 4.5 (Paid version)
- Magic School
- Brisk
- Claude
- Perplexity
- Co-Pilot
- And a number of tools for one of tasks like Sunni for music

Where does AI Fit Into Our Bigger Picture?

- Innovation: AI and Physical Literacy
- Fundamental Skills: Literacy and Numeracy
- All Means All

View how AI enabled Randy Travis to create new music after a stroke left him unable to talk.

Join us for our next meeting, the PAC AGM, June 11th, 2025.