

INTEGRATING AI IN EDUCATION: TRANSFORMING LEARNING — AN AI USE CASE INITIATIVE FOR CANADIAN EDUCATION

Ethical and Responsible Use of Al in Developing a Framework and Toolkits for Legal, Ethical, and Pedagogical Al Use



New Frontiers is creating an AI framework to guide ethical, legal, and pedagogical use in Quebec's English-language schools. With educators overwhelmed by AI resources, the challenge is defining a clear, contextualized path that supports varied adoption stages and builds confidence through a shared, coherent organizational voice.





Organization: New Frontiers School Board

Province: Quebec

Date: Spring 2025

Lead: Kara Johnstone, Director of

Systems & Information

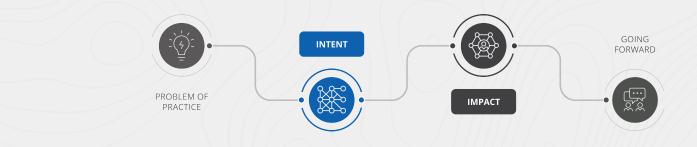
Technology

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Consultant

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Consultant



Intent

The intent of this Use Case is to establish a foundational AI framework that empowers and supports educators while ensuring alignment with legal, ethical, and pedagogical expectations. This framework will serve as both a guide and a launchpad for practical implementation, helping teachers, administrators, and staff build confidence in AI adoption.

Rooted in the mission and vision of New Frontiers School Board, the framework is being designed to reflect the unique needs of an English-language minority context. It will include clear guidance on ethical decision-making, instructional planning, differentiation, and student engagement—while also ensuring compliance with provincial policies and best practices from other jurisdictions (e.g., Ontario Catholic, New Brunswick).

A key priority is the creation of a visual representation that helps educators quickly grasp the core pillars of Al use. Alongside this, the initiative will develop toolkits and curated resources specific to different stakeholder groups—starting with teachers, then expanding to school leaders, support staff, and eventually students.

This work is already in motion, with early adoption efforts underway through tools like Teachally and Microsoft Copilot. The framework and resources will be informed by focus groups, surveys, and professional learning sessions, ensuring they are practical, accessible, and aligned with real needs. The goal is to provide structured support at every stage of Al integration, helping educators feel prepared and confident in their use of these technologies.

COMPETENCY

DIMENSIONS

LEXERCISING ETHICAL
CITIZENSHIP IN
THE DIGITAL AGE

DIGITAL
COMPETENCY

DIBETAL
COMPETENCY

DIMENSIONS

LEXERCISING ETHICAL
CITIZENSHIP IN
THE DIGITAL AGE

1. Developing critical
thinking to assess digital
content...

Deliberately developing
one's critical judgment
regarding digital technology,
based on rigorous...

OTHER

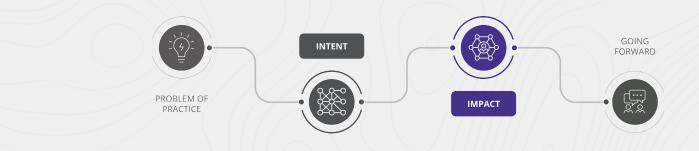
OTHER

The AI foundation framework is designed to reflect unique needs of an English-language minority context and include guidance on ethical decision-making, instructional planning, differentiation, and student engagement, ensuring provincial compliance and best practices borrowed from CEO Academy colleagues in other Canadian jurisdictions - Ontario Catholic and New Brunswick.

—Mike Helm, Director General, New Frontiers School Board

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Impact

While the full implementation of the AI framework is still underway, the early phases of this Use Case have already had a notable impact on internal clarity, collaboration, and direction-setting. The development team—spanning pedagogy, technology, and systems leadership—has refined its shared focus and aligned efforts around building a cohesive, legally compliant, and pedagogically grounded approach to AI use across the school board.

Early impacts include:

- A clearly articulated vision that reflects both New Frontiers' mission and the provincial Al guidance
- Increased collaboration between departments (IT, instructional consultants, leadership) to co-design the framework and toolkits
- Elevated awareness of ethical, legal, and pedagogical considerations related to AI among key staff members
- Engagement of educators through surveys and focus groups, providing a feedback loop that is already shaping resource development

Planned Impact (once fully implemented):

- Greater teacher confidence and agency in using AI tools like TeachAlly and Microsoft Copilot for planning, differentiation, and student support
- Scalable toolkits tailored to teachers, school leaders, and support staff—ensuring that each group can engage with Al tools appropriately and effectively
- A strong foundation for student-facing work, where AI literacy can be introduced in a developmentally appropriate and ethically grounded way
- Increased alignment between the board's mission/vision and its day-to-day use of emerging technologies, reinforcing a coherent organizational voice on Al
- Improved capacity to respond to rapid changes in AI by having a shared internal reference point (the framework) and visual model for decision-making
- As the framework moves toward implementation, further impacts are anticipated in professional learning design, instructional planning, and long-term AI integration strategies across the board.

Professional Learning insights

While formal professional learning tied to the AI framework has not yet been fully implemented across the board, foundational work is well underway. Early engagement through surveys and focus groups has surfaced key areas of interest, need, and concern among educators. These insights are helping shape a professional learning strategy that will be responsive, practical, and aligned with both New Frontiers' mission and the framework under development.

Emerging strengths:

- Educators are curious and open to AI, especially when the focus is on instructional planning, differentiation, and easing workload
- Focus groups created early buy-in and surfaced authentic questions, helping the team prioritize toolkit content
- Development team members are beginning to serve as internal champions, modeling thoughtful inquiry and cross-role collaboration

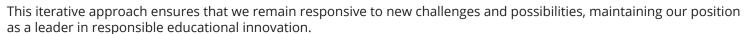
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GOING FORWARD

Going Forward

At New Frontiers, we understand that AI is an evolving technology. To adapt to these changes, we will:

- Regularly evaluate the impact of AI on educational outcomes and operational efficiency.
- Gather feedback from educators, students, and the broader community to inform our practices.
- Stay informed about advancements in AI, adjusting our policies and practices to reflect the latest insights and opportunities.

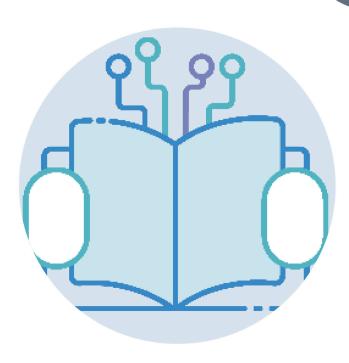


The integration of artificial intelligence into our schools, centres and board office represents a significant step forward in our mission to inspire and empower learners. At New Frontiers School Board, we are committed to leveraging this technology in a way that respects our values, supports our educators, and prioritizes the well-being and success of our students.

With thoughtful implementation, continuous reflection, and a steadfast commitment to ethical practices, AI will become a powerful ally in fulfilling our educational mission. Together, New Frontiers will ensure that the future of learning is both innovative and inclusive.

Guide for the Educational, Ethical, and Legal Use of Generative Artificial Intelligence





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