engage2learn + KENT SCHOOL DISTRICT
EQUITY | EXCELLENCE | COMMUNITY

Forward-Thinking AI Integration in Diverse Urban District Education

Located just outside Seattle, Kent School District (KSD) serves over 25,000 students in one of Washington State's most diverse communities. Guided by a bold vision to equip students as global citizens, KSD sought to harness the power of artificial intelligence (AI) to enhance teaching and learning. In 2024, the district partnered with engage2learn (e2L) to develop a set of actionable AI competencies that would align with district values and support future-ready instruction across all campuses.

THE CHALLENGE

While KSD had a clear vision for instructional technology and digital equity, the district faced a critical question: **how to responsibly and effectively integrate AI into classroom practice and system-wide strategy**. With growing interest in emerging technologies, district leaders needed a framework that would balance innovation with ethical considerations, align with state and federal guidance, and be accessible to all educators — regardless of their starting point with AI.
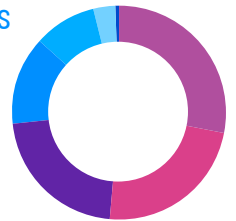
THE STRATEGIC SOLUTION

To meet this challenge, KSD assembled a cross-functional design team of educators, librarians, digital media specialists, and administrators. Over two immersive days, e2L facilitators guided the team through the Strategic Design Model — a research-based process rooted in backward design and design thinking. Leveraging e2L's **AI Implementation and AI in the Classroom Rubrics**, as well as state-aligned tools like the Human-Centered AI Guidance for K-12, the team co-created a shared vision for how AI could elevate student learning, instructional practices, and equity across the district.

District Demographics:

25,700 students across 46 schools

The student body is notably diverse:

White: **28.1%**
Hispanic: **23.4%**
Asian: **21.8%**
African American: **13.5%**
Multiracial: **9.4%**
Pacific Islander: **3.4%**
Native American: **0.3%**

Digital & Media Literacy
Design solutions that minimize bias and promote equitable outcomes.

Level **1**	Level **2**	Level **3**	Level **4**
AI			
I inspire students to positively contribute and responsibly participate in the media world.	I model and promote the evaluation of sources for accuracy and bias.	I model and promote the understanding of messages in various forms of media including advertisements and news media.	I model and promote creating media in a safe, responsible, kind, and ethical way.

THE OUTCOME

The result was a **comprehensive set of AI competencies** that reflect KSD's commitment to personalized, inclusive, and future-ready learning. These competencies are scaffolded across proficiency levels and support implementation at the classroom, campus, and district levels. By grounding AI integration in local values and stakeholder input, **KSD now has a clear, actionable roadmap to guide educators in using AI responsibly and effectively** — ensuring every learner is prepared to thrive in a digitally connected world.