THE SETHI LEDGER
AI + K-12 Brief | 2026-11-05

1. Survey finds many educators lack deepfake policies or response training

An EdWeek Research Center survey of 852 educators found that one in three did not know whether their school or district had a policy addressing AI-generated fake images and videos; 22% said no such policy existed. Nine in 10 respondents said they had not been trained to detect or respond to deepfakes in the prior two years. The article describes recommendations for incident plans, staff training and victim support.

Why it matters: The findings point to a preparedness issue spanning student safety, staff protocols and communications-not just whether a district has a general bullying policy. Leaders can review existing policies and response procedures without assuming a new standalone policy is necessary.

Limits: Survey responses measure educators' reported awareness and training, not the prevalence of incidents or the effectiveness of proposed responses.

Published 2026-11-04. Source: https://www.edweek.org/leadership/fake-ai-images-are-targeting-students-and-teachers-schools-arent-prepared/2026/11

2. FBI investigation links public school photos to alleged AI-generated abuse images

Federal court records and affected parents say photos of Penn-Trafford students taken from public district and PTO posts were digitally altered into explicit images. The FBI connected the investigation to a Connecticut man arrested in May 2025, and the district said the FBI directed it not to contact families or disclose information while the investigation proceeded. The district says it cooperated and will not provide further details to protect families' privacy.

Why it matters: The incident underscores that publicly posted student images can create privacy and safety exposure beyond district systems, and that incident communications may be constrained by an active investigation. Leaders should review image-sharing practices and establish clear coordination protocols with law enforcement and affected families.

Limits: The suspect is accused, not convicted; the district says the FBI directed its communications, while a parent described receiving no direct outreach from the district.

Published 2026-11-04. Source: https://www.wpxi.com/news/local/man-accused-taking-photos-local-schools-social-media-make-ai-generated-child-pornography/C4JBJJI64NDG7A4MTIV5KAMQ2I/

3. Seattle families press district for AI disclosure, consent and paper alternatives

Families rallied outside Seattle Public Schools headquarters seeking disclosure of edtech products and student data collection, caregiver consent, paper alternatives, device opt-outs and grade-level screen-time limits. The district already has some technology limits and is reviewing guidance on developmentally appropriate technology and AI use. A board

presentation also says the district is changing software decisions to reduce overlapping applications and use an advisory committee.

Why it matters: The development highlights governance and procurement concerns that leaders may need to address alongside instructional questions: transparency about tools and data, meaningful alternatives, and a process for reducing duplicative applications. The rally reflects participant concerns, not a measure of districtwide opinion.

Limits: The article reports demands and ongoing review, not adopted new districtwide rules; claims about harms are attributed to parents.

Published 2026-11-04. Source: https://komonews.com/news/local/seattle-publis-schools-crisis-in-the-classroom-families-to-rally-to-address-generative-ai-in-schools-education-washington-state-youtube-minecraft-gemini

4. Kent County voters approve bond including districtwide technology and safety upgrades

Voters approved a $38.1 million bond for Kelloggsville Public Schools, including districtwide investments in technology infrastructure and safety upgrades, as well as building improvements. The district estimates the bond will not increase property taxes as its 2018 bond expires in 2027. The article does not specify the technology purchases or their allocation within the bond.

Why it matters: The vote creates an approved funding vehicle for technology and safety work, but district leaders will still need to connect procurement choices to documented needs and project plans. The broad spending description does not reveal how much is earmarked for technology.

Limits: The vote results were described as unofficial, and the article provides no detailed technology budget or procurement timeline.

Published 2026-11-04. Source: https://www.schoolnewsnetwork.org/2026/11/04/voters-approve-bond-proposal-non-homestead-renewals/