Educational Leadership in the

Age of Al







How can educational leaders strengthen digital equity in an age of AI?

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Housekeeping

- Please provide all questions you would like the speakers and panelists to answer in the Zoom Q&A
- Use the Zoom Chat to add your comments if you agree with anything you see or hear during today's session







About the Speakers



D'Andre Weaver
Chief Digital Equity Officer
Digital Promise



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Executive Director of

Learning Sciences Research

Digital Promise

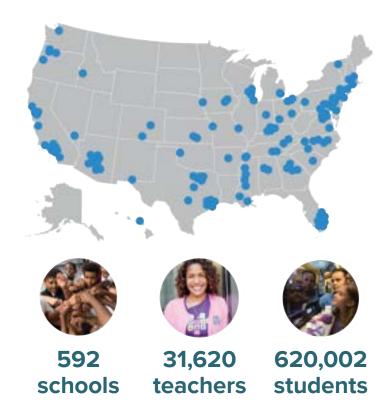






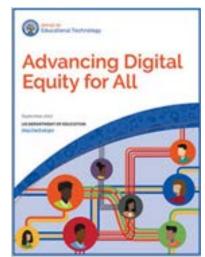


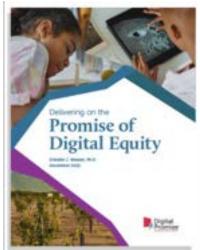
Recent Work in Digital Equity















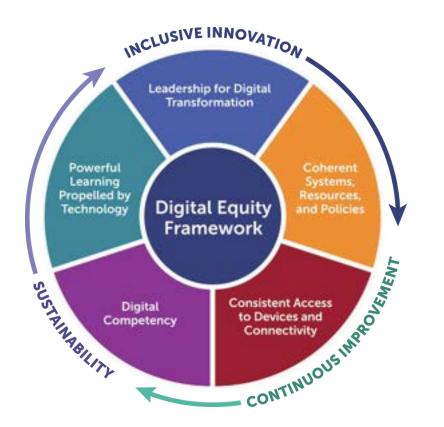




Digital Equity Framework

The **Digital Equity Framework** is a set of principles and guidelines designed to ensure equitable **access**, **opportunities**, **and outcomes** in the realm of digital technology and education. It outlines strategies to **bridge all 3 digital access**, **design**, **and use divides and promotes inclusivity in learning environments**.

Competencies play a crucial role in supporting the Digital Equity Framework by providing **students**, **educators**, **coaches**, **IT professionals**, **and system leaders** with the skills and knowledge needed to implement equitable practices.









Digital Equity Framework Leadership for Digital Transformation

Leadership activities that collaboratively develop, communicate, and enact a vision for **deep technology integration** across the education system.

Sets the conditions for the type of **ubiquitous learner-centered education** that ensures *all* students **learn** at their highest levels and **achieve equitable academic, social, and economic outcomes**.











Digital Equity Framework Coherent Systems, Resources, and Policies

Exhibited by a remarkable coherence across all organizational functions by aligning systems, resources (including **time**, **personnel**, and **funding**), and policies with the organization's technology vision, seamlessly embedded within their strategic/continuous improvement plan.

Striking examples can be found in organizations where technology is **fully funded**, supported by approved **policies**, and is **intricately woven into core systems** such as **professional learning communities**, the **instructional core** (teachers, students, content), **coaching models**, **professional development systems**, and assessment and feedback mechanisms.











Digital Equity Framework
Consistent Access to Devices & Connectivity

Ensuring adequate and consistent access to high-speed internet, devices, and emerging technologies/learning tools, both within and outside the classroom.

A major focus on physical infrastructure, procurement, device distribution and maintenance, and the development of sustainability plans in order to ensure high-speed connectivity, powerful devices, and emerging technologies provide uninterrupted access to ubiquitous powerful learning for all.











Digital Equity Framework Digital Competency

Digital competency refers to the **digital skills**, **mindsets**, **dispositions**, and/or **behaviors** that are essential to the success of learners, educators, and all people to effectively use technology to fully participate in a digitally driven society.

These competencies enable individuals to **lead**, **educate**, **learn**, **navigate**, **communicate**, and utilize **current** and **emerging technologies** in various aspects of their personal, academic, and professional lives.









Digital Equity Framework
Powerful Learning Propelled by Technology

A learner-center model that **seamlessly integrates emerging technologies**, **digital resources**, and **tools into instructional pedagogy**. It emphasizes the creation of engaging and relevant learning experiences that lead to deep understanding.

It marries the key tenets of Powerful
Learning—personalization, authenticity, accessibility,
challenge, collaboration, connectivity, inquiry, and
reflection—with the innovative potential of emerging
technologies, digital resources, and tools. The goal is
for learners to develop the vital competencies needed
to earn credentials, achieve economic security, agency,
and well-being.









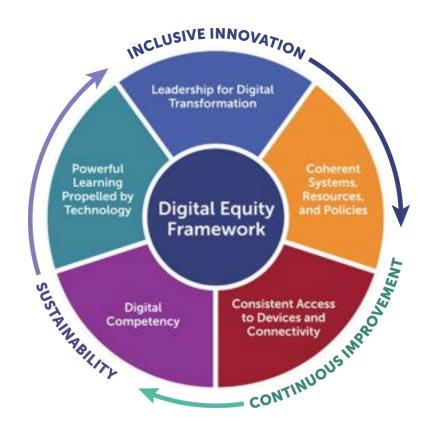


Digital Equity Framework Inclusive Innovation, Sustainability & Continuous Improvement

Inclusive Innovation - A belief that all related activities (from inception to execution and evaluation) are done in **collaboration** with those **most impacted, most underserved**, and **most underrepresented**. We ground our work in the ideals of **targeted universalism** and we center the **voices of those historically and systematically excluded**.

Sustainability - A belief that these efforts are society-building, mission critical and that we must plan for the long-term.

Continuous Improvement - We are **never satisfied** and are always striving to achieve **more equitable outcomes efficiently and effectively**











Equity and AI: Spotlight on Bias



Image by Google Gemini

Bias in Al models is defined as the systematic prevalence of untrue and/or harmful information that leads to unfair, inaccurate, or discriminatory outcomes

From Oregon's state guidance document. As generative Al uses algorithms created by human designers, there is a strong potential for the introduction of bias into the system. Some examples include privileging certain language variations, showing racial and gender biases, having a United States-centric lens, and providing only a limited perspective. As generative Al uses large data sets, historical and systemic biases are introduced into the system. Further, as generative Al lacks cultural knowledge and experience, this can lead to misinterpretations of prompts given and answers that privilege a certain cultural perspective







Equity and AI: Civil Rights



Administration Priorities The Record

Executive Order on the Safe, Secure, and Trustworthy Development and Use of Artificial Intelligence

....direct the Assistant Attorney General in charge of the Civil Rights Division to convene, within 90 days of the date of this order, a meeting of the heads of Federal civil rights offices — for which meeting the heads of civil rights offices within independent regulatory agencies will be encouraged to join — to discuss comprehensive use of their respective authorities and offices to: prevent and address discrimination in the use of automated systems, including algorithmic discrimination...

In an age of AI, why connect Civil Rights laws and Digital Equity?







Equity and AI: Civil Rights



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OCTOBER 30, 2021

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In an age of AI, why connect Civil Rights laws and Digital Equity?

To address things like:

- Unfair disciplinary actions
- Unfair course assignments
- Unfair grades / assessments









Limitations of the Spotlight on Bias



Image by Google Gemini

Important for engaging civil rights laws to protect against unfair algorithmic discrimination

Yet, not sufficient to guide forward-looking design of AI for Digital Equity









Equity and AI: Focusing on Gaps



A Call to Action for Closing the Digital Access, Design, and Use Divides

2024 National Educational Technology Plan



Digital Access Gap:

"The Digital Access Divide stands between those students and educators who have equitable, sustainable access to connectivity, devices, and digital content and those who do not"

Will students and educators have equitable, sustainable access to generative Al-based tools and resources?









Equity and AI: Focusing on Gaps



A Call to Action for Closing the Digital Access, Design, and Use Divides

2024 National Educational Technology Plan



Digital Use Gap:

"The Digital Use Divide stands between those students who are asked to use technology for creation, exploration, and critical analysis and those who are not"

Will Generative AI enrich the the haves, while substituting for needed human attention for the have-nots?







Equity and AI: Focusing on Gaps



A Call to Action for Closing the Digital Access, Design, and Use Divides

2024 National Educational Technology Plan



Digital Design Gap:

"The Digital Design Divide is between and within those systems that provide every educator the time and support they need to build their capacities to design learning experiences with digital tools, and those that do not."

How can we involve teachers in the loop of designing equitable uses of Al for their students?









Limitations of Gap Gazing



Image by Google Gemini

Important focus as we develop policies to guide Al access, use and design

Yet, a focus on gaps may not engage a whole community's forward looking energies to address Digital Equity.







Our Recommendation: A Systems Approach



Considerations across the system:

- Personalization without privacy violations
- Equal access to tools and resources across home, community and school locations.
- Educator supports: from guidelines to literacies to co-design
- Using generative AI to enable Universal Design for Learning
- Consistent quality of learning experience for students across the system

Not just spotlights or gaps, but a systematic approach to AI that accounts for each system component.









Meet The Panelists



Yusuf Ahmad CEO, Playlab Al



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Q&A

Thank you

Stay in touch!

You can contact us on LinkedIn via this post:

https://bit.ly/48vEHfQ

Next Steps:

- You will receive resources mentioned throughout this webinar
- Recording will be posted on Digital Promise's YouTube channel
- Join us on March 25 for the second webinar in our Age of Al series: https://bit.ly/4bKQbz2





