

REPORT TO BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Scott Johnson, Director of Education

Enclosure 8

Date: **February 28, 2023**

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Subject: ChatGPT

Background

On November 30th, 2022, Open AI, a research and deployment company focused on the 'ethical' development of artificial intelligence, released ChatGPT. This is an AI chatbot that utilizes the GPT3.5 deep learning model. This release was a free preview of a product intended for future monetization. At this time, Open AI has committed to maintaining a free tier to ChatGPT while also offering premium tiers for additional access and functionality. Recently, Microsoft has announced that ChatGPT will be incorporated into its Bing search engine and Google has unveiled their own AI tool that they intend to incorporate into their search engine.

The release of ChatGPT has prompted many discussions about its impact on education, primarily focusing on its potential role in academic dishonesty. Some districts and institutions have decided to block the tool, while others have decided to embrace the potential of the tool to augment current instructional practices.

Impacts and Future Planning

The AI tools our students have access to today are the weakest ones they will ever have access to. As a result, it is our responsibility to prepare our students for a world in which AI tools are accessible. Most importantly students must be taught how these tools can be used responsibly to augment their learning, not detract from it. This must be led by teachers who understand the capabilities and limitations of the tool. Teachers who explicitly use the tool for specific tasks, and demonstrate to students how artificial intelligence can be used to provide opportunities for practice, checking of understanding, and feedback, will better be able to set an example for responsible and ethical use of tools that have the potential for misuse.

Recommendations

That the St. Clair Catholic District School Board receive the report: ChatGPT for information.