AI WITH INTENTION

VIRTUAL SUMMIT

Practical strategies to support aligned & intentional teaching and student agency & integrity when AI tools are everywhere.

MARCH 9TH
AT 10:00 AM - 3:30 PM CST
VIRTUAL EVENT

FIRST
Educational Resources

AI CENTER
For Effective Teaching & Learning

Aligned & Intentional Teaching | Student Agency & Integrity | Artificial Intelligence

Artificial Intelligence | Aligned & Intentional Teaching | Student Agency & Integrity

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Opening Keynote 10:00 AM - 11:00 AM

A Call to Action: Ensuring Effective Teaching & Learning in the Age of AI

Tony Frontier, PhD - AI Center for Effective Teaching & Learning

- **AI Strand:** Aligned & Intentional Teaching, Student Agency & Integrity
- **Description:** Regardless of our individual beliefs about AI tools and whether or not they can be accessed on a school's network, they are everywhere. As educators, we have an obligation to ensure that if AI tools are used, they are used in ways that support aligned and intentional teaching and students are able to use them with agency and integrity. In this keynote session, you'll learn recent research, guiding principles, and practical classroom examples of uses of AI that support, and uses of AI that undermine, effective teaching and learning.

Breakout Sessions 11:15 AM - 12:15 PM

Applying Principles of Understanding by Design to AI

Jay McTighe, PhD - McTighe & Associates

- **AI Strand:** Aligned & Intentional Teaching
- **Description:** AI tools can enhance curriculum design. Jay McTighe, co-developer of the Understanding by Design (UbD)® framework, will describe how to create AI agents that can help:
  - Map the curriculum to Standards
  - Identify "big ideas" worth understanding
  - Generate associated Essential Questions
  - Develop authentic performance tasks
  - Create holistic and analytic rubrics
  - Develop standards-based units and lesson plans
  - Review and give feedback on current curricula

Using AI to Enhance Clarity in Every Classroom Tools

Garth Larson, EdD - First Education Resources

- **AI Strand:** Aligned & Intentional Teaching
- **Description:** In this breakout session, Dr. Garth Larson will showcase how AI can amplify clarity across all five essential components of the STAGR Process: clarity in the standards and targets we teach, clarity in what success looks like for students and teaching practices, clarity in how we assess learning, clarity in how we respond to student needs, and clarity in how we evaluate and communicate student learning. Participants will experience practical AI-driven examples, tools, and prompts that streamline planning, strengthen PLC collaboration, and increase instructional precision.

Breakout Sessions 12:30 PM - 1:30 PM

Purpose Before Policy: Launching AI with Intention

Paul Mielke, PhD & Deanna Wellens - Hamilton School District

- **AI Strand:** Intentional Teaching & Student Agency
- **Description:** In this session, Superintendent Paul Mielke and Principal Deanna Wellens will share how their district launched AI to ensure clear guidelines and boundaries to support intentional teaching and learning by prioritizing purpose before policy. They'll share their phased approach to support staff and students, featuring structured tools and team-based learning with an emphasis on how they grounded their intentional introduction of AI using local data and guiding principles from AI with Intention.

CONFERENCE AGENDA

Using AI to Build Understanding and Critical Thought in the Classroom

Jack Dougall - The British School, Gran Canaria, Spain

- **AI Strand:** Student Agency
- **Description:** In this session, classroom teacher and ISTE author Jack Dougall will show how he encourages his students to see AI as a tool to make them more effective learners rather than as a shortcut for efficiency. He will explain how, when used through this lens, AI can help students build clearer understanding, develop stronger perspectives, and think more deeply about their work. The focus is on how thoughtful classroom use of AI tools can actually strengthen learning rather than replace it.

Closing Keynote from 1:45 PM - 2:45 PM

Learning Crisis or Catalyst? What Educators Should Know about Current Research on AI and Academic Integrity

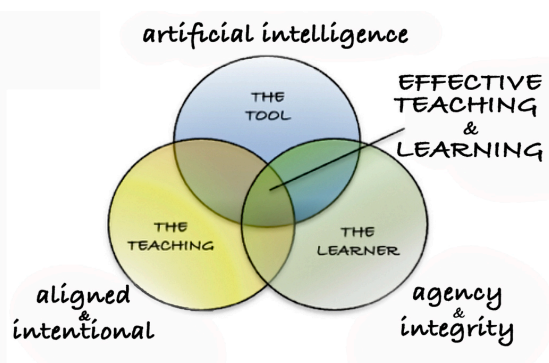### Denise Pope, PhD - Stanford University

- **AI Strand:** Student Agency & Academic Integrity
- **Description:** How many students are actually using AI to help their learning vs offloading their work to the chatbots? In this session, we'll examine recent research from Challenge Success and Stanford University on how middle and high school students say they are using generative AI for their schoolwork, how they would like to see it used in school, and how this connects to overall student belonging and engagement. We will discuss how educators and students are working together to design AI use policies that increase academic integrity, boost student engagement, and help students strengthen their critical thinking skills in a world where AI is becoming more and more ubiquitous.

Closing Synthesis from 2:45 PM - 3:30 PM

Tony Frontier and Garth Larson

Description: To close the conference, Tony Frontier & Garth Larson will share a brief synthesis from the day and discuss action steps to support teachers' efforts to use AI tools in ways that support aligned & intentional teaching and students' efforts to use AI tools with agency and integrity to support deeper learning.

About the AI Center for Effective Teaching & Learning

Our mission is to empower educators and learners to leverage artificial intelligence tools in ways that support, rather than undermine, effective teaching and learning. We help educators and students bridge the gap between what AI tools can do and how those tools should be used.

We envision a future where Artificial Intelligence tools are everywhere, and educators use them in ways that support Aligned & Intentional teaching, and students use them with the Agency & Integrity necessary to support deep learning. To learn more, about how we can support your professional learning needs, contact Tony Frontier at tony@firsteducation-us.com

About the Presenters

Tony Frontier, PhD., is an award-winning educator with 30 years of experience as a teacher, principal, curriculum director, university professor, and consultant who works with teachers and school leaders to prioritize their efforts to improve student learning. Tony facilitates engaging, practical, research-based workshops on topics including curriculum design, classroom assessment, student engagement, academic integrity, technology integration, and strategic planning. His most recent book, AI with Intention: Principles and Action Steps for Teachers and School Leaders (2025) includes a foreword by Jay McTighe and has been praised by John Hattie as "the best book I have read to introduce all to optimize the power of AI."

Denise Pope, PhD., is a Senior Lecturer at the Stanford Graduate School of Education and the co-founder of Challenge Success. She is an expert in curriculum, student engagement, and school reform, with a focus on academic stress and its consequences for students' mental and physical well-being. She works with schools globally to improve belonging and engagement. Dr. Pope is the author of Doing School and co-author of Overloaded and Underprepared. She also co-hosts the podcast School's In.

Jay McTighe is a veteran educator and accomplished author, having co-authored 19 books, including the award-winning and best-selling Understanding by Design® series with Grant Wiggins. His books have been translated into fourteen languages. Jay has also written more than 60 book chapters, along with articles and blogs for leading journals, including Educational Leadership (ASCD) and Edutopia. Jay has an extensive background in professional development and is a regular speaker at state, national and international conferences. He has made presentations in 48 states within the United States, in 7 Canadian provinces, and internationally in 39 countries on six continents.

Garth Larson, EdD, is the Co-Founder and CEO of FIRST Educational Resources. He began his career as a high school English teacher and Associate Principal, later serving as an elementary principal and the Director of Learning for the Winneconne Community School District in Northeast Wisconsin. In 2015, he co-founded FIRST Educational Resources, aiming to enhance student achievement across the United States. Since then, over 2500 school districts worldwide have partnered with his company. Garth consults globally, providing customized professional development on topics such as Professional Learning Communities, Learning-Centered Grading Practices, Leadership, and School Improvement. He is the co-author of six books, including Collaborative Systems of Support, PLC 2.0, Grading for Impact, The STAGR Process Roadmap, Extinguishing the Fires Within Assessment and Grading Reform, and Simplifying School Improvement: A Framework for Impact in Today's Schools.

About the Presenters

Jack Dougall has over 15 years of experience teaching humanities and business to secondary students internationally. In 2021, he founded the social enterprise Ecmtutors, which provides free peer tutoring to improve global educational outcomes. An advocate for AI in education, he created an AI learning code to demystify the technology. He shares his insights on integrating AI as an author and across various digital platforms. contributing to broader discussions about integrating AI in education and preparing both teachers and students for a future where AI plays a significant role.

Paul Mielke, PhD., is the Superintendent of the Hamilton School District in Hamilton, Wisconsin, and co-author of the book Making Teachers Better, Not Bitter: Balancing Supervision, Evaluation, and Reflection for Professional Growth. Prior to serving as a superintendent, he served as a high school English teacher, a middle school principal, and a high school principal.

Deanna Wellens is the principal of Silver Spring Intermediate School in Hamilton, Wisconsin. She has previously served as a principal, dean of students, and school psychologist in both Wisconsin and Wyoming. Deanna is a doctoral candidate working on research related to effective leadership practices in schools' and districts' implementation and use of AI tools.

About FIRST Educational Resources

FIRST Educational Resources, founded in 2010, was created to fill a growing need for affordable, authentic, and impactful professional learning opportunities for educators. The organization's mission is rooted in the belief that all students can succeed when teachers and leaders are provided with meaningful, customized professional development. Since its inception, FIRST Education has partnered with more than 2,500 school districts across the United States and around the world, offering in-person professional learning, consulting, and coaching designed to help schools make lasting improvements in teaching and learning.

What sets FIRST Educational Resources apart is its personalized approach. Rather than offering pre-packaged programs, the organization works closely with schools and districts to understand their unique needs and design support that is powerful, affordable, and sustainable. Their work spans nine comprehensive divisions—Artificial Intelligence, Assessment and Grading, Collective Efficacy, Co-Teaching, Secondary Literacy, Instructional Coaching, Math, Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), and Leadership—reflecting their broad expertise in both instructional and organizational improvement.

Beyond direct support, FIRST Education also provides a robust collection of free resources for teachers and administrators, emphasizing its commitment to continuous learning and equitable access to professional growth. Through its partnerships, events, and innovative frameworks, FIRST Educational Resources has become a trusted leader in helping schools build clarity, collaboration, and collective impact to improve outcomes for all learners.

www.firsteducation-us.com

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