

Sandbox to Scale:

The people, processes, and platforms needed to accelerate AI in **K-12 education**

Underwritten by:



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Key insights from K-12 IT leaders:

AI momentum & early wins



91%

say getting AI right is **essential** to students' success

59%

already include some form of **AI education** in their curriculum

92%

report **productivity gains** from generative AI (GenAI)

63%

report providing **GenAI tools** to both students and faculty

Most successful AI pilots:



Personalized student tutoring/adaptive learning – **59%**



Reducing administrative tasks for teachers – **55%**



Early warning systems for student support – **44%**

Scaling stops short



Despite strong progress, **only 17%** have scaled AI across multiple workflows in their districts



and 76% say they're more likely to launch a new pilot than expand an existing one

Why good pilots stall

Top reasons AI projects have stalled or failed:

- #1 Difficulty integrating with existing systems
- #2 Poor data quality or availability
- #3 Cultural resistance among users

GenAI-specific headwinds:

52% are concerned about **data privacy** and security risks

59% worry about **academic integrity**

and **53%** fear the **loss of critical thinking**

The 3 Ps of scale: people, processes, and platforms

What steps make the biggest difference in scaling AI?

Most impactful **people** steps:

- Providing staff with time to explore
- Establishing an AI leadership team

Most impactful **process** steps:

- Establishing sandbox environments for testing
- Building quality data pipelines

Most impactful **platform** steps:

- Adopting scalable cloud or hybrid environments
- Modernizing data infrastructure to improve access and quality

Success drivers & future impacts

What will be the **No. 1** factor in AI success over the next 5 years?

40%

#1 Scalable, secure infrastructure

31%

#2 Actionable governance

28%

#3 AI-fluent workforce

Greatest opportunities for AI by 2030:

- Professional development for teachers
- Cybersecurity resilience for student and staff data
- School safety monitoring and response
- Personalization of learning at scale

Recommendations for effective scaling



Focus on wins:

Expand AI that reduces admin tasks and personalizes student support



Support staff readiness:

Provide time and training to explore and build confidence



Build trust through governance:

Define policies on privacy, integrity, and GenAI use



Modernize for impact:

Invest in infrastructure for adaptive learning, data security, and scalability

Want to scale faster?

Learn how the Dell AI Factory with NVIDIA powers secure, scalable AI for K-12 schools.

Dell.com/YourWaytoAI

