

NSF STUDY (#2333764) – KEY INFORMATION

Title: *Understanding and Supporting K-12 School Leaders' AI-related Decision-making*

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Overall goal: Gather information about school leaders' current needs and knowledge about AI applications in K-12 education to inform future research and interventions

Research questions:

- What kinds of **decisions** have school leaders already made and expect to make about AI?
- What is school leaders' **current knowledge** of AI and its applications in K-12 education, **and what key questions** do they have about AI?
- What are school leaders' attitudes towards AI, and what **risks and opportunities** do they perceive about AI applications to educational settings?
- What **resources** could help inform school leaders' AI-related decisions, and how could these resources be effectively delivered?

Research design:

- Interviews with K-12 leaders in various positions/roles and districts:
 - First set of 36 interviews with K-12 leaders across 23 WNY districts in Oct-Dec.2023
→ *generated key themes and informed the survey design*
 - 8 superintendents
 - 11 tech directors
 - 10 other district-level administrators
 - 5 principals
 - 2 teacher leaders/instructional coaches
 - Additional set of xx interviews in Jan-March 2024
- Survey of WNY principals, superintendents, tech directors and district administrators:
 - Designed with slightly different sets of questions for principal (school level), superintendents, tech directors, and other district-level administrators
 - Sent to all leaders in these position in 179 districts across Western New York (except Buffalo for the moment)
 - Responses received so far from:
 - 23 superintendents
 - 32 tech directors
 - 32 other district-level administrators
 - 50 principals
- Creation and field-testing of online resources for K-12 leaders