EdTech
LAW CENTER

School-Issued Computer Dangers and Harms

Known Dangers

Harmful communications

- **Cyberbullying**
  - → Known offenders (peers)
  - → Unknown offenders
- **Sexual predation by stranger**
  - → Lewd text communications
  - → Sending/receiving explicit images or videos
  - → Blackmail/sextortion
  - → Resulting real-world interactions
    - ◦ In-person meeting
    - ◦ In-person victimization
- **Peer sexual communication**
  - → Sending/receiving sexual texts, photos, videos
  - → AI-generated deepfakes of self
  - → AI-generated deepfakes of peers
- **Online scams**
- **Drugs**
  - → Obtaining
  - → Dealing
- **AI chatbots**
  - → Inappropriate comms
  - → Sexual predation
  - → Encouragement of dangerous thoughts/beliefs
    - ◦ Delusions of grandeur
    - ◦ Conspiracy theories
    - ◦ Alienation / hopelessness
  - → Encouragement of dangerous behaviors
    - ◦ Self-harm
    - ◦ Harm to others

Exposure to harmful content

- **Ultraviolence**
- **Drug use**
- **Extremist content**
- **Harmful mis- and disinformation/deepfakes**
- **Pornography**

Disruptive off-task activities

- **YouTube**
- **Social media**
- **Gaming (e.g., Fortnite, Minecraft)**
- **Pornography**
- **Gambling**
- **In-app purchases**

Persistent digital surveillance

- **Constant monitoring of computer activity at school and home**
- **False reporting of benign behaviors**

Data harvesting

- **Nonconsensual generation, collection, use, and disclosure of personal information**
- **Predictive analytics**
- **Algorithmic bias**
- **Behavioral/targeted advertising**

Ergonomic design flaws

- **Monitor size, brightness, blue light**
- **Keyboard and mouse shape**
- **Desk and chair**

Resulting Harms

Mental health harms

- Anxiety
- Depression
- Suicidal ideation or behaviors
- AI psychosis / delusional behavior

Social-emotional harms

- Alienation/isolation
- Radicalization
- Behavioral issues / impulse control
- Impairment of social or family relationships

Cognitive harms

- Attentional disorders
- Delayed language development
- Memory difficulties
- Impaired critical thinking or problem-solving skills
- Diminished curiosity/creativity

Behavioral addiction

- Pornography
- Gaming
- Gambling
- Social media

Physical harms

- Eating disorders
- Self-harm
- Suicide
- Physical violence
- Sexual assault

Academic harms

- Poor comprehension
- Sliding grades
- Disciplinary action

Privacy harms

- Loss of privacy
- Loss of autonomy
- Commercial manipulation
- Self-censorship

Health harms resulting from ergonomic design flaws

- Eye strain
- Headaches
- Poor posture
- Back/neck pain
- Wrist pain
- Disrupted sleep
- Inactivity/obesity

Drug use/addiction

Involvement with the justice system

Financial loss