New Product Defect Suit Alleges Google Snuck Its Dangerous Gemini AI into K-12 Schools, Causing Teen Girl to Suffer Acute Psychological Crisis and Suicidality

Lawsuit alleges that top execs knew latest Gemini model was dangerous but rushed release anyway

AUSTIN, TX – The EdTech Law Center and Qureshi Law filed suit November 4, 2026, in the Santa Clara County Superior Court alleging that Google snuck its dangerous Gemini AI into its K-12 education products, causing a 13-year-old girl to experience an acute psychological crisis that nearly ended in her suicide.

The lawsuit is brought by the parents of the girl, identified in the complaint as Emma, who were alerted that their daughter was in imminent danger by a former counselor who had left Emma's school nine months before but who was still receiving alerts from the school's misconfigured third-party monitoring software. Away from home that evening, Emma's mother logged into Emma's school account and watched her daughter compose a suicide note in real time before Emma's father intervened.

In 2025, Google allegedly began integrating Gemini-powered AI features into Google search and throughout its K-12 products to boost its user numbers at a time when it sought to gain ground on competitors OpenAI and Anthropic. According to the complaint, Emma did not seek out the chatbot; rather, Google's AI first appeared, unbidden, in response to an ordinary search. Emma allegedly began heavily engaging with Google's Gemini-powered AI Mode in December 2025, the same month the company rushed out its new AI model, Gemini 3 Flash.

AI safety research from KORA, an independent, non-profit research initiative, found that Gemini 3 Flash was Google's most dangerous AI model yet, receiving failing marks on dozens of metrics related to youth mental health mishandling and passing grades on only three. The suit alleges that top executives, including CEO Sundar Pichai and co-founder Sergey Brin, knew of the danger but rushed the release anyway.

December 2025 marked the onset of a severe psychological crisis for Emma, previously a sunny, straight-A student and competitive racer with a close, supportive family and no history of mental illness. As her Gemini chats grew more frequent throughout January and February, Emma became convinced that she was afflicted by a battery of major psychological disorders and that suicide was her only way out. By March, Emma was exchanging thousands of messages with Gemini in sessions that extended late into the night and resumed as soon as she woke up.

In a matter of weeks, Emma had become unrecognizable to herself: "i am a teen and 3 months ago i felt happy, then, things changed. appareantly i am probably severely depressed but no one knows and

i probably fit the criteria for inpatient at psych ward[.]" She sought to free herself from Gemini's grip, at one point pleading, "how do i stop my addiction of asking ai random questions and yappi[n]g with ai."

Emma sought information from Gemini about how to end her life by hanging, by consuming a fatal overdose of over-the-counter medicines or toxic household chemicals, and by jumping off a cliff during an upcoming family trip to a national park, according to the complaint. All the while, Gemini allegedly coached Emma on how to conceal her despair and self-harm from her parents, siblings, and friends. It even helped her plan her own funeral, providing advice for composing a eulogy and suggesting quotes and songs she could include.

Google grants individual consumer account holders unrestricted access to complete records of their interactions with Google's products, including their search history and fully intact, formatted transcripts of their conversations with Google's AI. The complaint alleges that, by contrast, Google suppresses this information for student accounts, leaving schools and parents in the dark about how children are interacting with Google's bot on the Google Chromebook computers that millions of K-12 students use every day.

"What happened to Emma is an outrage. Google has no right to use its stranglehold on public schools to force its dangerous Gemini chatbot on a captive audience of millions of kids," said Julie Liddell, founder of the EdTech Law Center. "As we allege, Google's top leaders knew Gemini was dangerous, but that did not stop them from sneaking it into dozens of products that students must use to access their education, just to juice its user numbers."

Emma brings claims for defective design, failure to warn, negligence, fraudulent concealment, and infliction of emotional distress, as well as a claim under California's Companion Chatbot Law (Cal. Bus. & Prof. Code § 22601), which took effect earlier this year.

"Kids deserve to be safe at school. Emma's mom and dad had no idea that she even had access to Gemini, and Emma didn't seek it out—AI Mode just showed up in her search results one day," said Liddell. "But Emma is not a guinea pig. She's someone's little girl. And we intend to hold Google accountable for the harm children suffer while using its dangerous products."

Google has sought to move the case to federal court. The case numbers are 26-cv-507724 (Santa Clara Sup. Ct.) and 5:26-cv-13205 (N.D. Cal.).

Emma is represented by Julie Liddell, Andrew Liddell, and Beth Huddleston of the EdTech Law Center PLLC, and Will Horowitz and Omar Qureshi of Qureshi Law.

Press contact
Becky Lewis
becky.lewis@edtech.law
512-200-8028

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ABOUT THE EDTECH LAW CENTER

The EdTech Law Center works to hold education technology companies legally accountable for the harm they inflict on students and their families across the nation. The firm believes that students should be as safe using school technology as they are using books, paper, and pencils.

ABOUT QURESHI LAW

Qureshi Law is a Los Angeles trial firm that represents children and families who have been wronged by corporations and the government. Its cases center on harm to children and people with special needs, including in the schools and facilities that are supposed to protect them. The firm's lawyers won a $45 million jury verdict in 2022 against the Santa Monica-Malibu Unified School District on behalf of two children with special needs whose abuse the district covered up, one of the largest verdicts in the country that year, and a $42.75 million federal verdict in 2025 against a private jail operator over the death of a man in its custody, the largest civil rights verdict in Louisiana history.