Granite State Christian Schools Association

2026 Educators Conference

Guest speaker

KEVIN DONOHUE

Regional Vice President



How to Effectively Understand and Utilize AI: AI informed Teaching and Learning

FACTS
A nelnet COMPANY

@ Concord Christian Academy

37 Regional Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Friday, November 20, 2026 ● 8:00am - 3:00pm

Member School pricing: $75 per person (lunch included)
Non-Member School pricing: $99 per person (lunch included)
Register now at www.gscsa.org

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Friday, November 20



Guest Speaker:
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How to Effectively Understand and Utilize AI: AI informed Teaching and Learning

What You'll Learn: This hands-on conference will demystify artificial intelligence and provide educators with practical strategies they can immediately apply in the classroom. Led by Kevin Donohue, the day will move from foundational understanding to practical implementation and thoughtful consideration of the opportunities and challenges AI presents in education.

The conference will feature three sessions:

- What Is AI?
- AI for Educators
- Should We Use AI?

Hands-On Learning: Throughout the day, educators will participate in collaborative discussions and practical activities, including:

- Identifying where AI is already appearing in classrooms
- Building real lesson components—such as rubrics, worksheets, and emails—using AI
- Exploring practical ways to use AI while preserving teacher expertise and professional judgment
- Drafting a classroom AI-use policy that can be implemented at your school
- Discussing responsible and ethical approaches to AI use with students

Takeaways: Educators will leave with practical tools, ready-to-use strategies, clear guidelines, and greater confidence in navigating AI in education. The day will emphasize thoughtful integration rather than technology for technology's sake, keeping professional wisdom, educational purpose, and student-centered learning at the heart of AI use.

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Kevin grew up in Tampa, Florida and earned a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Notre Dame. Following graduation in 2010, he entered the Alliance for Catholic Education (ACE) program. In ACE, he taught fifth grade at St. Michael's in South Central Los Angeles, while earning his Master of Education in Elementary Education. In the years since ACE, Kevin has served in the Archdioceses of Los Angeles, San Diego, and Boston. He has taught grades 3-8, including the subjects of history, pre-algebra, religion, and reading for middle school students. Outside of the classroom, he has served as a basketball coach, technology coordinator, and Vice Principal.

In 2016, he entered full-time administration and served as a principal in Hawthorne, California and Somerville, Massachusetts. As a leader, he has worked on forming PLCs, creating a culture of academic excellence and faith, and establishing systems for a secure future - working with fundraising, enrollment, and marketing.

In 2023, he moved with his wife and four children to Fayetteville, Arkansas as his wife joined the faculty there. He started in a new role with FACTS as a Leadership Coaching Manager, supporting the team of leadership coaches, while also working with leaders and schools himself across the nation. With the growth in Artificial Intelligence, he has taken the lead within the FACTS team working with over fifty schools and districts to successfully incorporate AI-driven processes and reflections to improve student outcomes. His approach balances understanding, efficacy, efficiency, and ethics to ensure that AI remains a tool to augment and not replace the essential human nature which lies at the heart of the educational endeavor. In 2026, he added the role of Regional Vice President of the National Territory to assist schools achieve their mission through the use of Federal Title funds.

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Schedule - Friday, November 20, 2026

8:00am - 9:00am
Registration and light breakfast

8:45am - 9:00am
Welcome and opening remarks

9:00am - 12:00pm
Session 1 - What is AI? (Kevin Donohue)
Breakout Session - AI in the Wild
Session 2 - AI for Educators (Kevin Donohue)
Breakout Session - Build It Live

12:00pm - 1:00pm
Lunch on-site

1:00pm - 3:00pm
Session 3 - Should We Use AI? (Kevin Donohue)
Breakout Session - What Are Your Guardrails?
Closing remarks & dismissal

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Schedule - Friday, November 20, 2026

8:00am - 9:00am - **Registration and light breakfast**

8:45am - 9:00am - **Welcome and opening remarks**

9:00am - 12:00pm
Session 1 - What is AI? (Kevin Donohue) - A foundational, jargon-free overview of what AI actually is and how it works, cutting through hype and fear alike. Educators will leave with clear working definitions and a mental model they can explain to colleagues or students.

Breakout Session - AI in the Wild - Discussion about where AI is already showing up in educators' classrooms, intentionally or unintentionally.

Session 2 - AI for Educators (Kevin Donohue) - A practical look at how AI can support lesson planning, differentiation, feedback, and administrative tasks without replacing professional judgment. Educators will practice using AI as a starting point rather than a finished product and leave with a short list of ready-to-try prompts.

Breakout Session - Build It Live - Educators will draft one real lesson component—such as a rubric, differentiated worksheet, or parent email—using AI.

12:00pm - 1:00pm - **Lunch on-site**

1:00pm - 3:00pm
Session 3 - Should We Use AI? (Kevin Donohue) - An introduction to AI literacy for educators: what it means, why it matters, and how to begin teaching it in the classroom. Educators will discuss common concerns surrounding AI use, including accuracy, originality, and overreliance, and will leave with simple ways to introduce responsible AI use to students.

Breakout Session - What Are Your Guardrails? - Participants will draft a one-page classroom AI-use policy that they can bring back to their schools.

Closing remarks & dismissal