PHAA Policy Statement on the Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

Purpose

Artificial Intelligence tools—like ChatGPT, Copilot, Gemini, Perplexity and others—are powerful and here to stay. Our goal is to help students learn how to use these tools wisely, ethically, and in ways that support their learning and creativity.

Guiding Principles

- Students should build their own critical thinking and writing skills.
- Al should never replace original thought or student authorship.
- Colleges and schools generally do not allow AI-written compositions, and we want our students to be ready for those expectations.

Responsible and Ethical Use

Al can be a great support during the learning process. Students may use it to:

- Explore ideas and brainstorm research topics
- **Gather information** about potential sources (books, videos, articles)
- Clarify difficult concepts or get explanations
- **Prepare for tests** by creating practice questions
- Review drafts for grammar, tone, or readability

What Students Should Avoid

Students **should not**:

- Turn in Al-generated writing as their own work
- Rely on AI to "think" for them or replace their own analysis
- Use AI responses directly in compositions without rewriting and adding their own understanding

Parent and Evaluator Responsibilities

- Teach and model responsible Al use.
- **Supervise** student writing to ensure the work is their own.
- **Encourage transparency:** students should include a short disclosure if they used AI in any stage of writing.
- **Assign writing prompts** that invite personal reflection, opinions, and experiences—making AI imitation difficult and unnecessary.