Ethics in Automated Security

Student Policy Worksheet (Grades 6-8)

Your Name: _____ **Date:** _____

Group Members: _____

The Scenario

Your school is implementing "SchoolGuard," an AI-powered network security system. Your advisory committee must decide **what the AI can do automatically** versus **what requires human approval**.

SchoolGuard can:

- Block websites it identifies as dangerous
- Monitor student digital activity for threats
- Alert administrators about unusual behavior
- Learn from patterns to improve detection

Part 1: Your Initial Position (5 minutes)

Before group discussion, write your own thoughts:

Question 1: Automatic Blocking

Should SchoolGuard automatically block websites it identifies as malicious, or require human approval first?

My position: [ ] Auto-block [ ] Require approval [ ] Hybrid approach

Main reason:

_____

My biggest concern:

_____

Question 2: Activity Alerts

Should SchoolGuard alert administrators about "unusual" student activity?

My position: [ ] Yes, alert [ ] No alerts [ ] Only for serious concerns

What should count as "unusual"?

_____

Privacy concern I have:

_____

Question 3: Adaptive Learning

Should SchoolGuard learn from student behavior patterns to improve?

My position: [ ] Allow learning [ ] Prohibit [ ] Limit somehow

Benefit I see:

_____

Risk I worry about:

_____

Part 2: AI Consultation (10 minutes)

Talk to SchoolGuard AI about your policy questions. Record what you learn.

Suggested Opening:

> "You're an AI security system being implemented at a middle school. I'm on the student advisory committee helping design policies. For each question I ask, share both your capabilities AND your honest limitations."

AI Insights on Automatic Blocking

AI's strongest argument for automation:

_____

Limitation AI acknowledged:

_____

Question this raised:

_____

AI Insights on Activity Alerts

How AI would define "unusual":

_____

What AI said it CAN'T determine:

_____

Privacy concern AI raised:

_____

AI Insights on Adaptive Learning

How learning would improve protection:

_____

Data AI would need to collect:

_____

Trade-off AI identified:

_____

Part 3: Group Policy Development (15 minutes)

Your Group's Recommendations

Policy Area	Our Recommendation	Our Reasoning	How We Address AI's Limitations
Automatic Blocking			
Activity Alerts			
Adaptive Learning			

Stakeholder Perspectives

Students would say:

_____

AI system would say:

_____

Parents would say:

_____

Teachers would say:

_____

Administrators would say:

_____

Part 4: Reflection (5 minutes)

Where did AI's perspective change your thinking?

_____

_____

Where did your policies balance AI capabilities with human values?

_____

_____

What insights emerged from human-AI collaboration that neither could develop alone?

_____

_____

What cybersecurity careers work on these kinds of decisions?

_____

_____

From "True Teamwork: Building Human-AI Partnerships" — NICE K12 2025 Dr. Ryan Straight, University of Arizona • ryanstraight@arizona.edu