

New Mexico's Amira Opt-Out — A Statewide Biometric-Privacy Backlash Against a Mandatory AI Reading Test

AI in Education · Good practice · United States of America

Quality score: 33/100

Evidence strength: Cautionary / limited

Summary

New Mexico mandates Amira's AI voice-based reading test for all K-2 students, but after parents raised biometric-privacy concerns, six districts including Santa Fe and Los Alamos opted out and the state introduced tiered voice-data-deletion rules.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of learning impact	0/3
Equity & inclusion	1/3
Transparency, ethics & data protection	2/3
Teacher capability & pedagogy	0/3
Scalability & sustainability	2/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-21

[New Mexico Public Education Department / Amira Learning](#) — accessed 2026-08-21

[New Mexico Allows Schools to Opt Out of Controversial AI Tool \(GovTech\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-21

[Santa Fe and Los Alamos schools opt out of AI reading software over privacy fears \(Albuquerque Journal\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-21

[School Districts Push Back Against State-Required AI Reading Assessments \(EdWeek\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-21

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