Below is an email template to help you raise concerns about your child's exposure to AI at school. It's backed by research, written with respect, and designed to spark real conversations.

Here's how to make it count:

- **Start with your school principal and district superintendent.**
  These are the key decision-makers. You can also **CC school board members** to make them aware of the issue.
- **Don't go it alone.**
  Ask a few like-minded parents to send a similar email. Schools are more likely to respond when multiple voices raise the same concern.
- **Take it offline if needed.**
  If you don't get a response — or want to escalate — attend a school board meeting. You can even **use this email as a script** for public comment.
- **Stay focused, respectful, and firm.**
  You're not against technology — you're advocating for age-appropriate, safe, and transparent use of it. That's a message most educators will understand.

With you,

Nicki Petrossi (Scrolling 2 Death) & Chris McKenna (Protect Young Eyes)

EMAIL TEMPLATE:

Subject: Request for Caution in Implementing AI Technology in Elementary Classrooms

Dear [Principal NAME],

As a parent in [ENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT], I understand that schools are being encouraged—through Executive Orders and national initiatives—to foster early interest in artificial intelligence (AI) and promote AI literacy. While I support preparing students for the future, I urge our district to approach this implementation with deep caution, particularly for young learners.

In a recent survey by the S2D Foundation, **91% of parents expressed that they do not want their children interacting with AI tools at school**. This overwhelming response reflects rising concerns among families—concerns rooted in alarming research.

For example, *Forbes* has documented how educational AI chatbots can give children unsafe content, such as instructions for fentanyl recipes or unsafe dieting advice. These tools often generate inaccurate, biased, or even harmful outputs. Children—who are still developing cognitively and emotionally—are ill-equipped to distinguish between fact and fiction in these

interactions. Operating AI safely and ethically requires a maturity that many students have not yet reached.

Beyond content risks, recent studies published by *MIT*, *BJET*, and *MDPI* raise red flags about how AI tools can:

- Inhibit memory retention and critical thinking
- Promote cognitive offloading and “metacognitive laziness”
- Diminish creativity and face-to-face interaction

In addition, the business model of AI companies mirrors that of Big Tech: extractive, attention-driven, and data reliant. AI tools often directly collect and monetize intimate information about a user's health, attitudes, well-being, and relationships.

Given these concerns, I respectfully request the following:

1. **Prevent the use of AI by children in elementary grades outside of exceptions agreed upon with parents.**
2. **Obtain parental consent before any AI tools are used in the classroom.**
3. **Establish an AI tool approval framework that considers student privacy, protection, and learning outcomes prior to acceptance.**
4. **Provide extensive, hands-on training for all teachers involved in AI literacy and extend that training to parents.**
5. **Prioritize student digital literacy training that prepares them to use all technology responsibly.**

Teaching young students about AI should be like teaching them to drive: we don’t hand a 10-year-old the keys to a car. First, they learn the concepts, safety rules, and responsibilities. Likewise, our children should gain foundational understanding *before* ever using AI tools themselves.

Our students should not serve as test subjects in a national experiment. Until there is robust evidence that these technologies are developmentally appropriate and safe for children, I hope our district will uphold a cautious, research-informed, offline approach that centers on child well-being.

Thank you for considering this request. I look forward to your response.

Sincerely,
[Your Name]
[Your Contact Information]