

AI VOICE EDITION

That voice sounds right. Check anyway.

AI tools can now imitate a real person's voice, and school leaders' voices are all over board meeting and graduation videos. Scammers use cloned voices to rush a bookkeeper, clerk or principal into a payment or a password reset.



Hang up and call back

If a call asks for money, gift cards, a wire, a password reset or student data, end it politely and call the person back at the number in the staff directory. A real leader won't mind one bit.



Agree on a code word

Office teams can set a simple code word or question for urgent money or data requests made by phone. If the caller can't answer it, you're not talking to who you think.



Judge the ask, not the audio

Cloned voices can sound perfect. The tell is the request: urgent, secret, unusual, or 'I can't talk long'. If the ask breaks your normal process, the voice doesn't matter.



Spot the scam



Phone call (voicemail transcript)

External

Caller ID: Superintendent's Office <(470) 555-0128>

Phone call to the school bookkeeper

Caller ID shows the superintendent's office and the voice sounds exactly like Dr. Porter: 'Hi, it's me. The eighth-grade trip vendor says our deposit bounced. I need you to wire \$8,400 to their new account today. I'm boarding a flight, so I can't take calls. Skip the purchase order this once, I'll sign it Monday. And keep this between us until it's fixed.'

Spot the scam: how many red flags can you hear?

Red flags I found: ○ ○ ○ ○ ○

Look for: surprise, urgency, secrecy, an unusual payment method, a sender or link you can't confirm.

FUN FACT

In 2025 the FBI's IC3 received more than 22,000 complaints involving AI, with losses over \$893 million. Victims reported more than \$5 million lost to 'distress' scams that use cloned voices of loved ones.

Source: FBI IC3 2025 Internet Crime Report



Your 60-second move

Office teams: pick a code word for urgent phone requests at your next huddle. It takes one minute to agree on.



Who do I tell?

Name / ext. _____

Report channel _____

- ANSWER**
- Five flags: caller ID that can be faked, a wire to a new account, a boss who can't be reached, a skipped purchase order and secrecy. Safe move: say you'll call right back, hang up, and call the superintendent's office at the directory number. No payment moves without the normal approval.
 - Caller ID can be faked, so it proves nothing.
 - A wire to a brand-new account is how the money disappears.
 - A leader who can't be reached blocks your callback.
 - Skipping the purchase order skips your safety net.
 - Secrecy keeps the business office from catching it.



Scan for a 2-minute lesson on Pause, Verify, Report

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