

100 Schools Join Verizon Innovative Learning

Continued partnership between Digital Promise and Verizon provides free technology and internet access to select middle schools nationwide

MARCH 4, 2020 | Washington, D.C. – One hundred middle schools from 20 districts across the country will join the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools network in the 2020-21 school year. The continued partnership between Digital Promise and Verizon Innovative Learning equips every student and teacher at select middle schools across America with a device and up to a four-year data plan. In addition to technology and access, schools receive extensive professional development that supports powerful teaching and learning with technology in and out of the classroom.

Since 2014, as part of Verizon’s commitment to digital inclusion, the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools initiative has impacted 153 middle schools in 23 states and Washington, D.C. The 100 new schools joining the program this fall will bring the total to 253 middle schools nationwide. Moreover, eight districts—Alhambra and Glendale Elementary School Districts in Arizona; Compton, Los Angeles, and San Francisco Unified School Districts in California; Jefferson County Public Schools in Kentucky; Mater Academy and Miami-Dade County Public Schools in Florida; and New York City Department of Education—will expand their participation in the initiative, with additional schools joining others that were part of earlier cohorts.

In addition to free mobile devices (either iPads or Chromebooks) and accompanying 4G LTE data plans, participating schools receive a subsidy toward a full-time technology coach to support teachers with effectively integrating technology into learning. Over the course of the initiative, students also will have the opportunity to learn about emerging technology such as augmented and virtual reality and 3D design.

“Student engagement and learning improve when technology is used in powerful ways,” said Karen Cator, president and CEO of Digital Promise. “Through our partnership with Verizon, we’re pleased to continue to support the access which this initiative provides to students who need it the most.”

“We believe the Verizon Innovative Learning program can be a catalyst in the lives of middle school students across the U.S. by delivering transformational technology, education, and opportunity,” said Justina Nixon-Saintil, director of corporate social responsibility at Verizon.

Participating schools use technology to meet the needs of each student and empower them with skills such as critical thinking, problem solving, collaboration, and creativity. Teachers in Verizon Innovative Learning Schools have reported exploring new ways of teaching and experiencing enhanced student engagement, while more students believe that having technology improves their confidence in the things they can do.*

The 100 new Verizon Innovative Learning Schools comprising the program’s largest cohort to date are:

- **Alhambra Elementary School District (AZ):** Alhambra Traditional School, Carol G. Peck Elementary School, Cordova Elementary School, Global Academy of Phoenix, James W. Rice Elementary School, and Valencia Newcomer School
- **Baltimore City Public Schools (MD):** Baltimore Design School, Graceland Park-O’Donnell Heights Middle School, Holabird Academy Middle School, Vanguard Collegiate Middle School, and Walter P. Carter Middle School
- **Birmingham City Schools (AL):** Hudson K-8 School and Wilkerson Middle School
- **Broward County Public Schools (FL):** Glades Middle School, Margate Middle School, McNicol Middle School, New Renaissance Middle School, and Nova Middle School
- **Cleveland Metropolitan School District (OH):** Almira School, Miles Park School, Patrick Henry School, Wade Park School, and Whitney M. Young PreK-8 School
- **Compton Unified School District (CA):** Ardella B. Tibby Elementary School, Franklin S. Whaley Middle School, Laurel Street School, and Willowbrook Early College Middle School
- **Crescent City Schools (LA):** Akili Academy Charter School, Harriet Tubman Charter School, and Paul Habans Charter School
- **Fall River Public Schools (MA):** Henry Lord Community School, John J. Doran School, Kuss Middle School, Morton Middle School, and Talbot Middle School
- **Glendale Elementary School District (AZ):** Desert Spirit Elementary School and Sunset Vista Elementary School
- **Glendale Unified School District (CA):** Eleanor Toll Middle School, Theodore Roosevelt Middle School, and Woodrow Wilson Middle School

*Source: Westat (2019). Verizon Innovative Learning Schools Survey Result Dashboard Dec 2019

- **Gresham-Barlow School District (OR):** Clear Creek Middle School and Dexter McCarty Middle School
- **Houston Independent School District (TX):** Edison Middle School, Fleming Middle School, Hartman Middle School, Holland Middle School, Patrick Henry Middle School, and Tanglewood Middle School
- **Jefferson County Public Schools (KY):** Carrithers Middle School, Conway Middle School, Farnsley Middle School, Females of Color STEAM Academy, Robert Frost Sixth Grade Academy, and Stuart Middle School
- **Los Angeles Unified School District (CA):** Berendo Middle School, Holmes Middle School, Maclay Middle School, Northridge Middle School, Orchard Academies 2C, Robert Louis Stevenson College and Career Prep, South Gate Middle School, Sylmar Leadership Academy (K-8), and Utah Street Elementary School (K-8)
- **Mater Academy (FL):** Mater Academy Bay Middle School, Mater Grove Academy, Mater International Preparatory School, and Mater Lakes Academy Middle School
- **Miami-Dade County Public Schools (FL):** Carol City Middle School, Cutler Bay Middle School, Shenandoah Middle School, and West Miami Middle School
- **Milwaukee Public Schools (WI):** Andrew S. Douglass Middle School, Audubon Middle School, Lincoln Center of the Arts, Oliver Wendell Holmes School, and Rufus King International Middle School
- **New York City Department of Education (NY):** Bronx Writing Academy, Frederick Douglass Academy VIII, Highland Park Community School, I.S. 171 Abraham Lincoln, CIS 303 The Leadership & Community Service Academy, J.H.S. 218 James P. Sinnott, P.S./M.S. 004 Crotona Park West, P.S. 41 Francis White, P.S./M.S. 042 Robert Vernam School, P.S. 183 Dr. Richard R. Green, P.S. 184 Newport, Soundview Academy for Culture and Scholarship, South Bronx International Middle School, Van Siclen Community Middle School, and Vista Academy
- **Portland Public Schools (OR):** Cesar Chavez School, Faubion School PK-8, Harrison Park School, Lent K-8 School, and Marysville K-8
- **San Francisco Unified School District (CA):** Everett Middle School, Francisco Middle School, James Lick Middle School, and Willie Brown Middle School

For more information, visit [verizon.digitalpromise.org](https://www.verizon.digitalpromise.org).

Press Contact:

Jessica Schuler

Digital Promise

410-598-9848

jschuler@digitalpromise.org

###

About Digital Promise

Digital Promise is a nonprofit organization that builds powerful networks and takes on grand challenges by working at the intersection of researchers, entrepreneurs, and educators. Our vision is that all people, at every stage of their lives, have access to learning experiences that help them acquire the knowledge and skills they need to thrive and continuously learn in an ever-changing world. For more information, visit the [Digital Promise website](#) and follow [@digitalpromise](#) for updates.

About Verizon Innovative Learning

Verizon Innovative Learning, Verizon's education initiative targeting Title 1 middle schools, addresses barriers to digital inclusion. The program provides free 1:1 devices, free internet access and a technology-driven curriculum with the goal to transform the learning experience. Through exposure to cutting-edge technology, the program enables students to develop the skills, knowledge, and confidence needed to build an innovative workforce of the future. Since 2012, Verizon Innovative Learning has committed a total of \$400 million in STEM education efforts in support of digital inclusion. In 2019, Verizon launched its first 5G-enabled Verizon Innovative Learning classroom, with the goal of 100 by 2021. For more information visit [Verizon.com/Responsibility](https://www.verizon.com/responsibility) or find us on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#) or [Twitter](#).