



Pendergast District Was Selected for the Verizon Innovative Learning Initiative to Bring Internet Access, Devices and Technology Coaches to Local Schools

In partnership with Digital Promise, Verizon Innovative Learning will welcome Amberlea, Desert Horizon and Villa de Paz in the Pendergast District for the 2021-22 school year

Phoenix, Arizona – February 24, 2021 – [Pendergast District](#) is proud to join [Verizon Innovative Learning](#), Verizon’s education initiative which addresses barriers to digital inclusion and is a key program under [Citizen Verizon](#), the company’s responsible business plan for economic, environmental and social advancement. In partnership with Digital Promise, Verizon Innovative Learning equips every student and teacher at select middle and high schools across America with a device and up to a four-year data plan. In addition to free technology and access, schools receive extensive teacher training and support, along with the opportunity to engage in powerful teaching and learning that leverages technology in and out of the classroom.

The program, which launched in 2012, has reached more than 212,000 students and 14,000 teachers across 264 middle and high schools to date. Amberlea, Desert Horizon and Villa de Paz Schools in Phoenix, are among the 148 new schools joining Verizon Innovative Learning, bringing the program to more than 400 middle and high schools nationwide.

In addition to free mobile devices and accompanying 30GB 4G LTE data plans, participating schools will be assigned a full-time coach to train teachers in effectively integrating technology into their lessons. Pendergast Acting Superintendent Dr. Jennifer Cruz shares, “As we prepare our students for high school and beyond, technology is a critical part of how and what they learn. This grant will enable our students to accelerate their learning and achievement with the tools and support from the Verizon partnership grant. We are grateful for the opportunity for these schools and students and look forward to helping them be globally competitive in the future.”