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Hinds County School District Joins Verizon Innovative Learning, Bringing Internet Access, Devices and Technology Coaches to Local High Schools

In partnership with Digital Promise, Verizon Innovative Learning will welcome two schools in Hinds County School District for the 2023-24 school year

RAYMOND, Mississippi – Today, Hinds County School District joins [Verizon Innovative Learning](#), Verizon’s award-winning education initiative which addresses barriers to digital inclusion. In partnership with Digital Promise, the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools program 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.

Raymond High School and Terry High School are among the 32 new schools joining the 10th cohort of Verizon Innovative Learning Schools, bringing the program to nearly 600 middle and high schools nationwide.

In addition to free [tablets or laptops] with accompanying Verizon data plans for every student and teacher beginning in fall 2023, participating schools will be assigned a full-time coach to train teachers in effectively integrating technology into their lessons.

“Hinds County School District is proud to be the first and only district in the State of Mississippi selected to participate in this 1.1 initiative with Verizon. I believe that this partnership will yield great academic gains for our high school students who will now be able to extend their learning beyond the four walls of their classrooms using these internet ready devices in their

homes to broaden the scope of their academic opportunities. The possibilities are endless and as a “B” level district striving to reach the “A” level, this will surely be a catalyst to bolster our efforts,” said Dr. Delesicia Martin, Superintendent.

"So many students across the nation lack the access to technology and resources they need to be successful in today’s digital world,” said Julie Smith, Verizon Government Affairs. “On behalf of Verizon, we are excited to help enable students in the Hinds County School District to develop the skills, knowledge and capabilities for a more promising future."

Verizon Innovative Learning is driving academic improvements.* In fact, 78 percent of teachers reported that Verizon Innovative Learning enhanced their ability to differentiate instruction and 77 percent said the program enhanced student engagement.*

These efforts to support digital inclusion are part of Citizen Verizon, Verizon’s responsible business plan to move the world forward for all. Learn more about the Verizon Innovative Learning Schools program and how to apply at [verizon.digitalpromise.org](https://www.verizon.com/digitalpromise).

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**Source: Westat (2022): Verizon Innovative Learning Teacher Survey June 2022

About Verizon Innovative Learning

Verizon Innovative Learning, Verizon’s award-winning education initiative, is celebrating over a decade of commitment to addressing barriers to digital inclusion for students and teachers. Since 2012, the program has committed \$1 billion in market value to support digital equity, reaching over 3 million students. Verizon Innovative Learning provides free technology, internet access and emerging technology-infused learning programs to students in under-resourced communities—enabling students to develop the skills, knowledge and confidence needed to build an innovative workforce of the future. In 2021, Verizon launched Verizon Innovative Learning HQ, a next-gen online education portal that provides free access to immersive extended reality (XR) educational experiences to all educators, including K–12 teachers, nationwide. A key program under Citizen Verizon, the company’s responsible business plan for economic, environmental and social advancement, Verizon Innovative Learning is helping to drive the company’s commitment to provide 10 million youths with digital skills training by 2030. Learn more at [citizenverizon.com](https://www.citizenverizon.com).