



## **Covina-Valley Unified School District Accepted into National Network of Innovative School Districts**

*Covina-Valley Unified School District joins Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, will partner with other leading educators, entrepreneurs, and researchers from across the U.S.*

**October 3, 2016, Covina, CA – Covina-Valley Unified** is one of 19 new school districts accepted into the League of Innovative Schools today, a national coalition of forward-thinking school districts organized by Digital Promise, an independent, bipartisan nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to accelerate innovation in education.

**Covina-Valley Unified** was selected from a competitive and national pool of applicants based on its leadership, evidence of results, innovative vision for learning, and commitment to collaboration.

**“Coding and Computer Programming is in huge demand in our workforce, by the year 2020 there will be a 1 million person skills gap in Computer Science. This is the future, coding should be the second language we teach all kids. Covina-Valley is the first district in the United States making a commitment to computer science immersion in grades K-12. By 2020, companies like Cisco, Apple, and Google are going to be coming to Covina-Valley to snap up our kids instead of looking world-wide.”** Richard Sheehan, Ed.D.

The League of Innovative Schools, launched in late 2011, accepts new members through an open application process once per year. With the new members, the League now includes 87 school districts in 33 states, representing nearly 3.3 million students. The full list of members can be found at [digitalpromise.org/districts](http://digitalpromise.org/districts).

“The League of Innovative Schools connects and rallies the most dynamic leaders of the nation’s school districts in order to advance positive change in public education,” said Sara

Schapiro, senior director of the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools. “As Digital Promise celebrates its fifth anniversary, we’re excited to welcome our new League members and amplify their insights to help others support teaching and learning with technology.”

League members are represented by their superintendent, who commits to:

- Attend biannual League meetings, which feature classroom visits, collaborative problem-solving, and relationship-building with peers and partners;
- Join working groups on a broad range of topics relevant to the changing needs of school districts;
- Engage with entrepreneurs to advance product development and meet district needs;
- Support research that expands what we know about teaching and learning; and
- Participate in the League’s professional learning community by connecting with other members online, in person, and at each other’s school districts.

In addition to superintendents’ participation, there are also opportunities for other school administrators, principals, and teachers to participate in League and Digital Promise initiatives.

The League will officially welcome new members at its fall 2016 meeting on Nov. 2-4 in Baltimore County. The meeting will host about 200 national school leaders and prominent education experts, entrepreneurs, and officials, with the goal of addressing shared priorities and setting goals that district leaders will pursue throughout the year.

For more information on the Digital Promise League of Innovative Schools, visit: [digitalpromise.org/league](http://digitalpromise.org/league).

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## **About Digital Promise**

Digital Promise is a nonprofit organization authorized by Congress to spur innovation in education in order to improve the opportunity to learn for all Americans. Through its work with educators, entrepreneurs, researchers, and leading thinkers, Digital Promise supports a comprehensive agenda to benefit lifelong learning and provide Americans with the knowledge and skills needed to compete in the global economy.