



Increasing equity and inclusion

The Yonkers Learning Technology Grant 2018-2021

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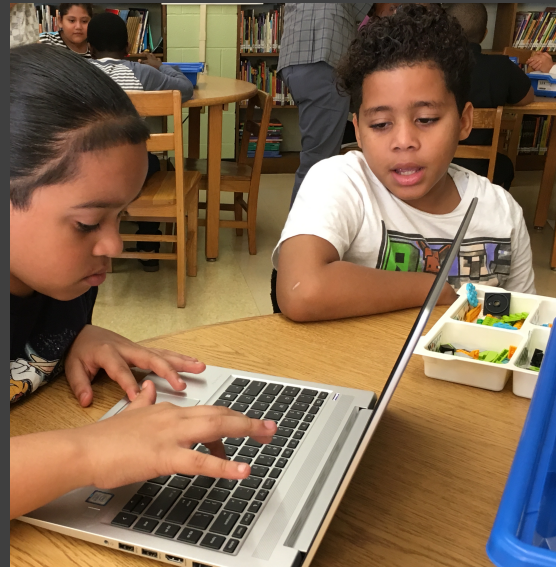
Diversity

- Yonkers is one of the most diverse cities in New York State and the region, with
 - 31% of residents foreign-born
 - 46% of households speaking a foreign language
 - The Yonkers Public Schools comprised of just under 27,000 students from 100 different geographic regions across the globe
 - 57% of students identify as Hispanic/Latino
 - 19% as Black/African-American
 - 17% White
 - 5% Asian/Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander
 - 1% identifies as multi-racial
 - 78% of students are considered Economically Disadvantaged with 76% qualifying for free and reduced lunch
 - 17% are Students with Disabilities
 - 13% English Language Learners



Digital equity

- The comprehensive STEM curriculum began with students in the second grade and progressed through the fifth grade (2018-2021). New students were added each year and many students returned year-to-year.
- The LTG addressed the disparities that exist between the city's schools and their digital partners through providing needed technology in the classroom, opening new opportunities for students to learn through hands-on engagement, new instructional technology, and opportunities to collaborate with peers across the city.
- All students in the Yonkers Engineering Initiative were provided access to technology and instruction as well as materials and programs that allowed them to collaborate, experiment, investigate, create, present, and reflect.



Equity and Inclusion

- Authentic, experiential learning opportunities promotes depth of learning and increases retention.
- The LTG included diverse learners, providing them with the technology and programs needed to succeed and providing tools to collaborate with others – even when remote instruction was in effect.
- Professional learning for teachers on inquiry-based methods of instruction, ways to differentiate for diverse learners, and instructional technology training are necessary to build competencies and confidence.