

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Nashville Public Education Foundation Launches New Tech Goes Home Initiative in Partnership with Google Fiber and Metro Nashville Public Schools

Program provides technology training, free laptops, and home Wi-Fi for participating MNPS families to help reduce the digital divide

NASHVILLE, TENN. – Nov. 10, 2022 – The Nashville Public Education Foundation (NPEF), Metro Nashville Public Schools (MNPS), and Google Fiber are partnering to bring technology, internet access, and education to MNPS families through a program called Tech Goes Home. The program launched at Madison Middle School in early November and NPEF plans to launch it in up to four additional schools throughout the school year with continued support from Google Fiber.

Upon completion of the program, participating families receive a free laptop and home Wi-Fi. NPEF used the district's equity roadmap to determine the communities that would benefit most from the program and worked with MNPS's Community Achieves program to recruit families to participate.

Tech Goes Home includes four sessions facilitated by Dr. Chris Nelms, a learning technology specialist with MNPS, that focus on computer operating basics, establishing security settings, and accessing MNPS apps and portals so that families can better engage with their student's learning.

"It is vital that we not only get technology into the hands of our students and families, but we provide them with education and coaching that will contribute to success in and out of the classroom," **said Michelle Springer, Chief of Student Support Services, Metro Nashville Public Schools.** "We look forward to continuing to empower families in our district to digitally access information and resources at home that help them succeed in school and beyond."

Through a survey of all MNPS students, data shows that only half of MNPS students have access to a device, and only two-thirds have reliable access to the internet to use for home learning, leaving a significant gap of thousands of students with neither a device nor connectivity.

"We believe in the power of technology to drive education," **said Ryun Jackson, Google Fiber Government and Community Affairs Manager.** "We are proud to work with these organizations to ensure that Nashville's children have access to the resources they need to thrive both in and out of school."

Tech Goes Home is the latest development in NPEF's ongoing work to reduce inequities in Nashville's public schools. During the surge of the coronavirus pandemic and schools moving to virtual learning, NPEF partnered with MNPS and other community organizations to address the digital divide by providing technology and expanding wireless internet access so students could participate in distanced learning.

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Supporting Metro Nashville Public Schools for 20 Years

For two decades, the Nashville Public Education Foundation (NPEF) has consistently prioritized the needs of students and schools in a rapidly evolving city. With an unwavering focus on helping to shape a future where every student thrives, NPEF has proven that bold change is best achieved with an informed and united community of educators and business and civic leaders.

Since its founding in 2002, NPEF has fostered data-driven solutions that have led to tangible results in professional learning for teachers, school funding, teacher pay, principal quality, and more. To learn about the milestones of NPEF's support of Metro Nashville Public Schools and its students, visit nashvillepef.org/history.

About the Nashville Public Education Foundation

The Nashville Public Education Foundation is a nonprofit organization that works to remove the barriers to educational experiences by highlighting success, serving as a strategic thought partner to Metro Nashville Public Schools, convening stakeholders, and advocating for change so all students can thrive in school. Since its founding in 2002, NPEF has fostered data-driven solutions that have led to tangible results in professional learning for teachers, teacher pay, principal quality, college access and success, and more. To learn about NPEF's support of Metro Nashville Public Schools and its students, visit nashvillepef.org.

About Metro Nashville Public Schools

Metro Nashville Public Schools is one of the nation's top 50 largest school districts, preparing more than 80,000 students for higher education, work and life. With the goal of being the premier large urban school district in Tennessee and beyond, MNPS wants to ensure Every Student is Known by meeting focused outcomes that will help each child achieve growth from an academic and social-emotional perspective. The governing body for Metro Schools is the Metropolitan Nashville Board of Public Education, a nine-member elected body. For more information, visit MNPS.org, or follow us on Twitter [@MetroSchools](https://twitter.com/MetroSchools) or Facebook.com/MetroSchools.

Media Contact: Kathleen Grooms / kgrooms@tinymightyco.com