



# Durham Public School Digital Scholars

This 2017 traditional grant for \$96,000 supports the expansion of the Digital Scholars program into the Durham Public School (DPS) system. Two DPS Digital Scholars will be named and will serve for two years. Additionally, the DPS Digital Scholars will help to build out critical support components for the program, participate and then teach their DPS colleagues to support personalized student learning plans, and host digiCamps during the summer for DPS teachers.

[digiLEARN](#) is a digital learning institute promoting digital learning for all ages. It is committed to increasing learning options for students, teachers and collaboration with entrepreneurs. digiLEARN created a Virtual Innovation Studio (VIS), a set of services for school leadership and work teams that facilitates collaborative work bringing together teachers, entrepreneurs, and policy makers to utilize developing technologies and advancing research in learning. The Digital Scholars program is the foundation of the VIS and a 2016 pilot of 16 Digital Scholars from 9 school systems across NC.

Digital Scholars are current classroom teachers or instructional facilitators that serve as coaches. This model is centered on research that revealed for teachers to be able to innovate in their classrooms, they need professional learning opportunities that are personalized and self-directed, and focused on their needs as an educator. The Digital Scholars will work in concert with administrators, colleagues, community members, and the EdTech community for system-wide change.