



# LearnZillion

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## **LEARNZILLION AWARDED \$150K TO USE TECHNOLOGY TO SUPPORT MATH LEARNING**

*NewSchools Venture Fund challenge aims to help fill a critical need in math education*

WASHINGTON – Today, [LearnZillion](#) announced it is among the winners of the Middle & High School Math Challenge, awarded by [NewSchools Venture Fund](#) to organizations that address critical student needs in mathematics. LearnZillion’s full K-8 math curriculum combines the lessons and best practices of master educators to ensure that teachers in the classroom have the content, assessments and professional development necessary to provide the best possible education to each of their students.

“Many middle and high schools – especially those that serve low-income populations – lack the math content and tools necessary to adequately prepare students for the 21st century. In a world where a student’s Algebra I grade is the [best predictor](#) of college completion, having a conceptual understanding of math is crucial for success in higher education, social mobility and developing key life skills,” said Esther Tricoche, associate partner for the NewSchools Venture Fund.

LearnZillion helps to bridge this gap by providing rich experiences where students can learn math through real-world content, collaboration and support, which ultimately build the foundation needed to shift from basic to more complex mathematical application.

“One of our core beliefs is that a student’s circumstances should not limit his or her learning opportunities,” said [Eric Westendorf, CEO and co-founder of LearnZillion](#). “We offer a full, open curriculum and a large library of supplemental materials for free online that any teacher or student can access. Not only is this material free; it is designed to ensure that all students are exposed to the kind of teaching that builds strong conceptual understanding. We want to tear down any barrier between students and the foundational knowledge they need to be successful.”

In addition to \$150,000 in grant funding from NewSchools and research support from a world-class team of experts at [WestEd](#), LearnZillion will receive feedback and hands-on support from educators, entrepreneurs and technology professionals. With this support, LearnZillion plans to further their work in helping to fill a critical gap in what’s available in high-quality curriculum.

LearnZillion’s online curriculum was designed by the [Dream Team](#) – an experienced group of over 800 teachers representing district, charter and private schools in 42 states – and [is currently being used by one-third of teachers across the country to implement the new, higher standards](#). Currently available for full math (K-8) as well as English-Language Arts, LearnZillion provides school districts with a comprehensive solution that aligns open curriculum, formative assessment and professional development so that teachers can successfully implement the new standards and better meet the needs of their students.

**About LearnZillion:**

LearnZillion combines the expertise of teachers with the power of technology to provide the curriculum and support needed to engage every student. Founded in 2011, LearnZillion initially grew out of the curriculum and practice developed during co-founder Eric Westendorf's tenure as the principal at E.L. Haynes Public Charter School in Washington, D.C. One in three U.S. teachers use LearnZillion's teacher-created, standards-aligned, free digital math and English language arts curriculum. The resources offered by LearnZillion will evolve based on the needs of public schools. To learn more, visit [www.learnzillion.com](http://www.learnzillion.com).

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