

## **MEMORANDUM NO. 2022–004**

- TO: School District Superintendents Curriculum Coordinators Technology Directors Principals
- FROM: Kari Eakins, Chief Policy Officer
- **DATE:** January 10, 2022

SUBJECT: Microsoft TEALS Program for 2022-23 School Year

## WYOMING SCHOOLS CAN EXPAND COMPUTER SCIENCE ACCESS WITH SUPPORT FROM MICROSOFT

Limited access to digital skills threatens to widen the income gap between those who have the skills to succeed in some of the most in-demand 21st-Century careers and those who do not. To reduce this gap, all young people deserve the opportunity to learn computer science, especially those least likely to have access.

With the goal of increasing access to computer science for all students, Microsoft launched its <u>Technology Education and Literacy in Schools</u> (TEALS) Program, which has connected more than 93,000 students over 10 years to high-quality computer science education.

<u>Microsoft is opening applications</u> for the next class of participating school districts and campuses for the 2022–23 school year in Wyoming. Participating schools receive significant curriculum support from Microsoft and its partners to build equitable, inclusive computer science programs in Wyoming high schools.

TEALS supports teachers who want to learn and teach computer science by pairing them with a team of volunteers. These volunteers attend class virtually or in-person every week and help students troubleshoot and debug their code during lab time. TEALS volunteers also help teachers outside the class by assisting with lesson preparation and grading.

When the teacher needs additional support, those volunteers can also present lessons, provide coding demonstrations, introduce projects, and conduct reviews for exams. The teacher is responsible for classroom management, leading the teaching team, and learning how to teach computer science. As teachers master different skills, they transition to more time teaching and less with project management.

For more information, contact Laurel Ballard, Supervisor, Student and Teacher Resources Team, at 307-777-8715 or laurel.ballard@wyo.gov or Joey Knapp at joey@tealsk12.org or visit the TEALS website.