

News Release



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**500 Paterson High School Students to Receive Free Mobile Devices
and Wireless Service as Part of the Sprint 1Million Project**

Paterson is one of 11 pilot markets to test program helping to close the "Homework Gap"

PATERSON, NJ – FEBRUARY 7, 2017 – Paterson Public School District students will have a new way to keep up with their school work from home. As part of the Sprint (NYSE:S) [1Million Project](#), 500 Paterson high school students will receive a free mobile device and free wireless connectivity as the pilot program kicks off at Rosa L. Parks School of Fine & Performing Arts and Garrett Morgan Academy today. Local Sprint executives and school officials will be on hand as participating students receive their smartphone or tablet. Students from the Academy of Health Science (HARP), Academy of Earth & Space Science (PANTHER), School of Information Technology at Eastside, and the International Baccalaureate Program at International High School will also participate in the pilot program.

Research shows that 5 million U.S. families with school-aged children do not have internet access at home, but 70 percent of teachers assign homework that requires web access, creating a "Homework Gap" that puts these students at a disadvantage academically. Sprint and the Sprint Foundation are working to change that with the 1Million Project, a multi-year initiative to foster academic success for 1 million low-income students across the country by providing them with reliable connectivity to complete their school assignments from home.

"The launch of the 1Million Project pilot program is a hugely important step towards achieving our goal of closing the 'Homework Gap' and connecting 1 million high school students who don't have internet access at home," said Karen Paletta, Sprint's Regional President for the New York and Philly Tri-State Region. "Everyone at Sprint is committed to this important initiative, and I am proud to join our Paterson 1Million Project pilot kick off as the first students from Rosa Parks and Garrett Morgan high schools receive their mobile devices today."

The Paterson Public School District is a diverse urban school. As the third largest school district in New Jersey, the district enrolls over 28,000 students in 56 schools to accommodate students in pre-kindergarten through grade 12.

"Technology has rapidly become a heavily relied upon tool in today's educational environment," said Dr. Donnie Evans, Paterson's Superintendent. "Yet, with so many of our students lacking internet access at home, closing the digital divide is essential in our efforts to prepare all students for college and career. We are extremely thankful to have been chosen for this exceptional grant from the Sprint Foundation which will go a very long way in helping our high school students thrive in the 21st Century."

Paterson, the only school district in the tri-state area participating in the pilot program, was chosen as one of 11 1Million Project pilot markets which will benefit high school students in Brockton, MA, Chicago, Dallas, Kansas City, Providence, San Diego and other cities. The pilot program will run through the end of the 2017



News Release

school year. Feedback will be applied in preparation for a nationwide program rollout at the start of the 2017-2018 school year. Schools and school districts who want to apply to the program can visit www.sprint.com/1million project for more information.

Anyone looking to support the program can visit www.sprint.com/give1mp to make a donation via credit card.¹ Sprint stores continue to accept monetary and device donations. Used mobile devices can also be donated online.² Devices will be recycled or resold with net proceeds benefiting the 1Million Project. Visit www.sprint.com/1millionproject for more information, and follow and support the program on social media by using the hashtag #1MillionProject.

About Sprint:

Sprint (NYSE: S) is a communications services company that creates more and better ways to connect its customers to the things they care about most. Sprint served 59.5 million connections as of Dec. 31, 2016 and is widely recognized for developing, engineering and deploying innovative technologies, including the first wireless 4G service from a national carrier in the United States; leading no-contract brands including Virgin Mobile USA, Boost Mobile, and Assurance Wireless; instant national and international push-to-talk capabilities; and a global Tier 1 Internet backbone. Sprint has been named to the Dow Jones Sustainability Index (DJSI) North America for the past five years. You can learn more and visit Sprint at www.sprint.com or www.facebook.com/sprint and www.twitter.com/sprint.

About The Sprint Foundation

Since its establishment in 1989, the Sprint Foundation (the philanthropic arm of Sprint) has provided millions of dollars to community organizations across the country. A separate legal entity from Sprint, the Sprint Foundation is able to make a huge impact where it is needed most, supporting hundreds of organizations every year that focus on education, arts and culture, youth development, community development, and disaster relief. For more information visit sprint.com/goodworks.

¹ Cash donations for the 1Million Project are tax-deductible charitable contributions to the Sprint Foundation.

² Device donations are not tax deductible. Net proceeds from reselling/recycling donated devices or \$1 per device, whichever is greater, will be donated to the program.

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