Business

Code.org is a national nonprofit organization, dedicated to expanding access to computer science education for students nationwide. Noting the dependence on computers, prevalence of computing jobs, and dearth of computer science students, Code.org believes that computer science is foundational for the 21st century student, regardless of his or her socioeconomic background. The partnership between MCPS and Code.org was established in 2014, with a commitment from 11 high schools to deliver the computer science curriculum in the first year. Today, 24 high schools offer the program, and six middle schools will offer it in 2017–2018. Code.org has a curriculum-writing team that has already modernized the course, a software engineering house that creates tutorials that students find fun to use, a coalition of tech companies that are eager to fill computer science jobs, and professional development to train instructors to teach the courses.