

# Verizon Innovative Learning Schools

When we started working in underserved schools in 2012, we recognized that if we could train teachers on how to use smartphones and tablets in the classroom, we could help them change the way they teach and the way students learn. That's how our Verizon Innovative Learning Schools (VILS) program began. We worked in partnership with the International Society for Technology in Education (ISTE) to provide teachers professional development on how to effectively integrate technology in the classroom. We started with 12 schools in the 2012–2013 school year, and added 12 schools the next school year. The results of this program have been consistently positive: In year one, students in the VILS program performed better on standardized tests than those in comparison schools by roughly nine percentage points; in year two, VILS students performed better by roughly three percentage points.

## 2015 Results

VILS students are improving in areas that pave the way to STEM careers. According to their teachers:

**37%**

of students were better at problem-solving

**25%**

of students asked more questions about STEM careers

And, they're more interested in STEM than non-VILS students.

