

## Kimberly A. Smith Joins Digital Promise as Executive Director of the League of Innovative Schools

**July 18, 2017** | **Washington, D.C.** – Digital Promise announced today that Kimberly A. Smith has been named the new Executive Director of the <u>League of Innovative Schools</u>, a coalition of the nation's forward-thinking district leaders representing more than 3.3 million students.

In her new role, Smith will lead and execute the League of Innovative Schools' strategic priorities and foster collaboration among educators, entrepreneurs, researchers and thought partners. Members of the League of Innovative Schools, launched in late 2011, pioneer innovative learning and leadership practices that lead to improved outcomes for students and help prepare them for lifelong learning. Currently, the League includes 86 school districts in 33 states.

"At Digital Promise, we believe in the power of networks to connect us with people and ideas in order to advance positive change in public education," said Karen Cator, President and CEO of Digital Promise. "The League is our flagship network, and Kimberly brings a depth of knowledge and experience to build and strengthen the League and continue our guiding principle to close the Digital Learning Gap."

"Digital Promise reflects my core commitment to creating solutions that empower the education ecosystem," said Smith. "I am excited to collaborate with district leaders across the country to build on the great work of the League in demonstrating the impact of effective technology and innovation practices."

Prior to joining Digital Promise, Smith served as the Chief Learning and Innovation Officer at the Network for Teaching Entrepreneurship (NFTE), where she led the organization's innovation strategy including the development of a portfolio of college- and career-ready programs to support over one million low-income students to lead successful, productive lives. She also worked in leadership roles at PBS, Discovery Education, and the Corporation for Public Broadcasting.

Smith is an Aspen-Pahara Institute fellow focused on education leadership and pioneering initiatives. She received her Master of Business Administration from Johns Hopkins University and holds a Bachelors of Science in Journalism from the University of Colorado at Boulder.

## **Press Contact:**

Erica Lawton
Digital Promise
202-450-3675
erica@digitalpromise.org

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## **About Digital Promise**

Digital Promise is a nonprofit organization that builds powerful networks and takes on grand challenges by working at the intersection of researchers, entrepreneurs, and educators. Our vision is that all people, at every stage of their lives, have access to learning experiences that help them acquire the knowledge and skills they need to thrive and continuously learn in an ever-changing world. For more information, visit the <a href="Digital">Digital</a>
<a href="Promise website">Promise website</a> and follow <a href="@digitalpromise">@digitalpromise</a> for updates.

