Digital Promise Global will develop *Instructional Coaching for Tech-Enhanced Approaches in Mathematics (iCoachTEAM)* under an EIR Early-Phase grant, addressing <u>AP1: Demonstrates a Rationale</u> and <u>AP2: Field-Initiated Innovations – STEM and CS</u>.

High-Need Students: We define students with "high needs" as those whose mathematics test scores are a year or more behind grade level, as well as those students who identify as Black, Latinx, or low-income (i.e., among groups underrepresented in STEM). iCoachTEAM will serve approximately 25,200 students in grades 6-8 at 37 middle schools in four districts.

Activities, Objectives, and Outcomes: iCoachTEAM will develop, implement, and evaluate a school-based, 1-1 instructional coaching program that helps middle school mathematics teachers transform instruction through strategic use of technology. iCoachTEAM develops non-specialist instructional coaches' capacity to support middle school math teachers in optimizing technology resources already available in schools to improve the quality of mathematics instruction, and ultimately increase mathematics engagement and achievement overall and for students from groups underrepresented in STEM. Coaches receive ongoing mentorship and training on research-backed strategies and tools for delivering high-quality effective coaching.

Evaluation Design: The evaluation will use a cluster-randomized controlled trial, randomly assigning 30 middle schools with an estimated 45 math coaches and 210 teachers serving approximately 16,800 students to the iCoachTEAM program or status quo coaching to evaluate the effect of iCoachTEAM on teacher practice, student engagement, and math achievement.

Partners: Digital Promise Global, Instructional Coaching Group, Portland Public Schools, Octorara Area School District. Two additional districts serving students in groups meeting the high-needs definition will be recruited for full implementation, after development in Years 1 and 2. SRI International will serve as external evaluator.