

Teacher Professional Development

KID Museum's **Maker Learning Professional Development Program** was created to **fuel a passion for hands-on, project-based learning, while building teacher capacity** for delivering it.

Grounded in KID Museum's "Mind of a Maker" framework, the program includes **professional development sessions, individualized coaching, and a series of hands-on maker learning experiences that are aligned to district curricula**. Teachers also have the opportunity to share best practices for maker learning in a virtual setting with fellow instructors and become a part of a network of teacher champions, both within their schools and across the region.

In Spring 2021, with the support of Amazon, KID Museum launched a Maker Learning Professional Development Pilot to develop a district-level approach to adopting maker learning across school systems. The result of the program is a model for collaboration between school systems, administrators, teachers, and industry partners to create an ecosystem that supports long-term change in how we teach students STEM and CS skills.

Maker Learning Program Pilot Overview

In partnership with Montgomery County Public Schools and District of Columbia Public Schools, this pilot program reached **10 schools** across the two districts, with **55 teachers** delivering high-impact, maker-based learning curriculum to over **2,000 elementary and middle school students**. Eight of the schools have Title I status and serve predominantly low income families and students of color. Participants included principals, assistant principals, classroom teachers, media specialists, STEM teachers, and staff development teachers.



It was awesome, and really changed the way I think about teaching.

— **Participating Teacher in KID Museum's Maker Learning PD Pilot**



Program Outcomes

55

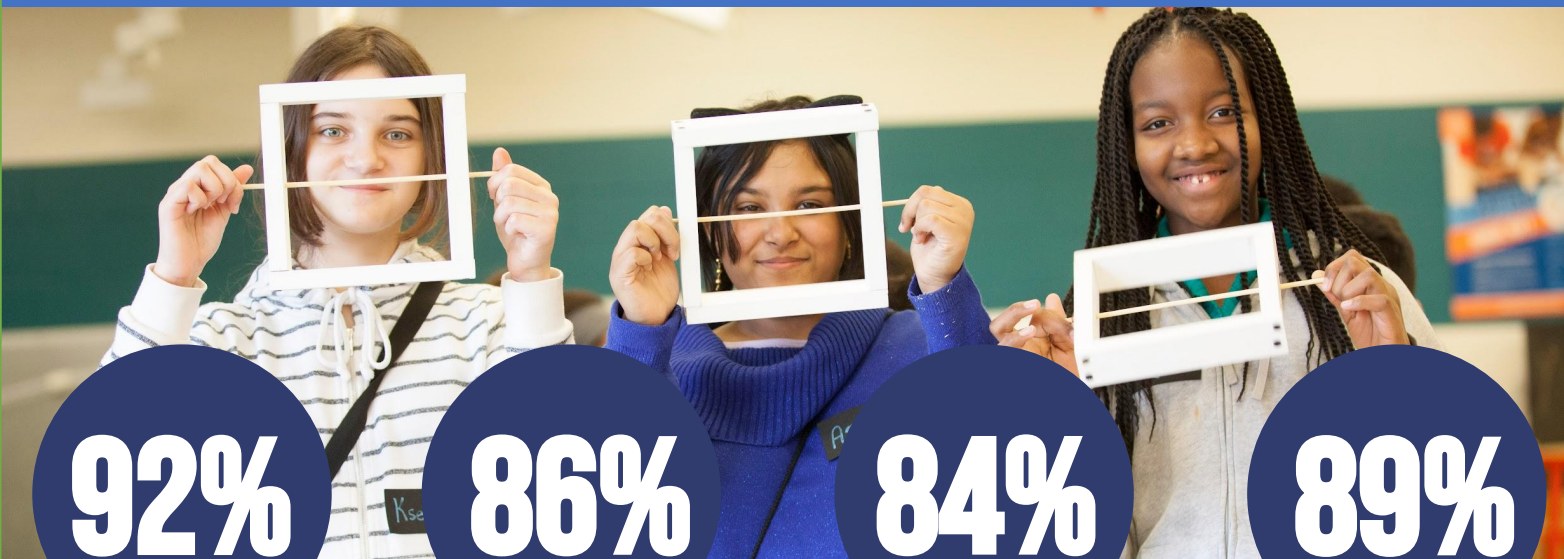
Educators from
MCPS & DCPS

2,000

Students

88%

Title I Schools



92%

of teachers said
their students
improved
engineering skills

86%

of teachers said
their students
improved
technology skills

84%

of teachers said
their students
improved **critical**
thinking skills

89%

of teachers said
their students
improved
perseverance

This program has re-inspired me as a teacher — and I've heard the same from other teachers. I've been able to incorporate more hands-on learning into the classroom. Now we stress "mind of a maker" skills (perseverance, collaboration, creative problem-solving), no matter what we are teaching. These are skills they can apply anywhere.

— Stephanie Seo Gould, STEM Teacher at Parkland Middle School

