

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Tata Consultancy Services and Discovery Education Launch “Ignite My Future in School” to Prepare K-12 Students with Digital Skills for 21st Century Careers

– 10 U.S. School Systems and 190,000+ Students Join as Early Computational Thinking Adopters, Receiving Professional Development, Educator Guides, Model Lesson Plans, CS Curriculum Connectors, and a Learning Leader for Year-round Support –

NEW YORK, NY | SILVER SPRING, MD (September 26, 2017) – Tata Consultancy Services, (TCS), (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS) a leading global IT services, consulting and business solutions organization, and **Discovery Education**, the leading provider of digital education content and professional development for K-12 classrooms, today announced the launch of ***Ignite My Future in School***. This a first-of-its-kind, multi-million dollar initiative leverages computational thinking and new teaching resources as a catalyst to transform the way K-12 students learn across America.

Recognizing the importance of computational thinking as a foundational skill, ***Ignite My Future in School*** has a goal of engaging 20,000 teachers and one million U.S. students by 2021. As a first step towards this goal, TCS and Discovery Education also announced that 10 U.S. school systems – with more than 6,700 teachers and 194,000 students – joined the effort as early adopters of this transdisciplinary approach.

These partner school systems are: *Brooklyn, NY; Charlotte, N.C.; Dallas, TX; Denver, Colo.; Detroit, Mich., Dublin, Calif.; Harrisburg, Pa.; Janesville, Wis.; San Anselmo, Calif.; and Stone Mountain, Ga.* They have joined the initiative in a five-year educator training and learning commitment to help empower middle school teachers. These select schools will experience the unique opportunity to learn and apply computational thinking through an annual free day of professional development for educators and community night for parents. In addition, TCS and Discovery Education have launched an online program, **TECHademy**, which will engage teachers nationwide in an exclusive, cost-free, virtual professional development experience that includes curriculum resources, eLearning courses, webinars, and more. These resources are aligned to national standards, as well as the recently launched K-12 Computer Science Framework.

“As an industry leader, Tata Consultancy Services has a fundamental responsibility to prepare the next generation of U.S. students with computational thinking and digital fluency that are critical to succeed in their future careers across all sectors,” said **Surya Kant, President of TCS North America, U.K. and Europe**. “Partnering with Discovery Education enables us to deliver maximum impact through a transdisciplinary approach to learning that starts with providing teachers the knowledge they need to empower their students through computational thinking skills that will set them up for success.”

“Advanced thinking and greater investment in our students is always to be commended,” said **U.S. Senator Johnny Isakson, R-Ga.**, a member of the Senate committee that oversees education. “Students and teachers across 10 school districts, including DeKalb County, Ga., will benefit from the opportunity Tata Consultancy Services and Discovery Education are providing as we find improved ways to help equip our students to be ‘big picture’ thinkers. This type of initiative will help to prepare them for many careers and elements of jobs that do not yet even exist. Now more than ever, our students need to learn the basic skills that will help them prepare for lifelong learning.”

Today, less than 25 percent of U.S. schools teach computer science related courses. However, in less than five years, there will be one million more jobs requiring computer science skills. The expansion of ***Ignite My Future in School*** will empower educators, administrators and school districts to champion a transdisciplinary approach to learning, as they introduce computer science to students within the context of core subjects, including: English, mathematics, social studies, science and the arts.

“Discovery Education is proud to partner with TCS to help educators and students reimagine learning,” said **Bill Goodwyn, president and CEO, Discovery Education**. “Through *Ignite My Future in School*, our shared goal is to help revolutionize innovative learning experiences by strengthening teacher effectiveness and increasing student interest in computational thinking.”

Unveiled during the launch of ***Ignite My Future in School***, professional development, educator guides, model lesson plans, curriculum connector resources, and Learning Leaders for year-round support to partner school systems were introduced. Additionally, the initiative will provide:

TECHademy: Launched today *LIVE* from One Discovery Place in Silver Spring, Maryland, TECHademy will engage teachers across the nation in an exclusive virtual professional development experience. The immersive engagement will catalyze their learning journey and provide hands on experiences they can bring back to their classrooms.

Days of Discovery: Up to 150 educators and 250 community members will attend each Day of Discovery and Community Night. Additionally, each market will have local learning leaders, who will promote teacher learning communities, connect participants and act as guides for cross-district learning and sharing. Moreover, more than 3,000 TCS employees will be actively involved as mentors and support the building of local coalitions in each city. Educators will be provided with high quality professional development content that aligns with existing curricular requirements, enabling them to reach students in a compelling, hands-on manner.

Curriculum Resources: Inspiring educators across the U.S. through a virtual digital platform, IgniteMyFutureInSchool.org will feature an abundance of curriculum resources – engaging transdisciplinary lessons that tie-in exciting, real-world scenarios covering computational thinking strategies across core subject areas. Inspiring family activities provide the opportunity to have fun while providing powerful learning experiences in the process. Collaborative resources complement schools’ existing curriculum with computational thinking exercises and activities. Career vignettes connect students with real-world TCS professionals using computational thinking to solve complex problems and promote innovation.

eLearning Module: Giving teachers the knowledge they need to empower their students through computational thinking, will help to infuse computer science with everyday subject instruction. The ***Ignite My Future in School*** e-learning module, accessible by all teachers, will provide a guided online introduction to computational thinking courses that can be completed in one or multiple web-based sessions.

Webinar Series: Compelling webisodes will feature key topics on computational thinking brought to teachers by thought leaders in the education industry. Instructional courses and content will provide faculty with the opportunity to leverage new teaching strategies in their classrooms, the series is designed to promote increased student engagement and achievement.

Computational thinking is a problem-solving process. Much like critical thinking, computational thinking is a higher-level process whereby students can decipher problems and form innovative solutions. Students will move from consumers to creators, and ***Ignite My Future in School*** will prepare them for bright futures where they can use their computational thinking skills to harness the power of digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence, and design the future.

Ignite My Future in School builds on TCS' robust global community initiatives that have inspired more than two million young people in STEM education and careers. TCS is a founding partner for two national mentoring initiatives in the United States, US2020 and Million Women Mentors. TCS' flagship student engagement program, TCS goIT, has engaged more than 12,000 middle and high school students across 54 cities in the United States and Canada with hands-on experiences in computer science, inspiring them towards tech careers in all sectors.

To learn more about **Ignite My Future in School**, go to ignitemyfutureinschool.org. For more information about Discovery Education's Streaming Plus, digital content and professional development services, visit discoveryeducation.com. Stay connected with Discovery Education on social media through [Facebook](#), follow us on Twitter at [@DiscoveryEd](#), or find us on [Instagram](#) and [Pinterest](#).

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Tata Consultancy Services is an [IT services](#), [consulting](#) and business solutions organization that delivers real results to global business, ensuring a level of certainty no other firm can match. TCS offers a consulting-led, integrated portfolio of [IT](#), [BPS](#), [infrastructure](#), [engineering](#) and [assurance services](#). This is delivered through its unique [Global Network Delivery Model™](#), recognized as the benchmark of excellence in software development. A part of the Tata group, India's largest industrial conglomerate, TCS has over 385,000 of the world's best-trained consultants in 46 countries. The company generated consolidated revenues of U.S. \$17.6 billion for year ended March 31, 2017 and is listed on the BSE Limited and National Stock Exchange of India Limited. For more information, visit us at www.tcs.com. To stay up-to-date on TCS news in North America, follow [@TCS_NA](#). For TCS global news, follow [@TCS_News](#).

About Discovery Education

Discovery Education is the global leader in standards-based digital content for K-12, transforming teaching and learning with award-winning digital textbooks, multimedia content, professional development, and the largest professional learning community of its kind. Serving 4.5 million educators and over 50 million students, Discovery Education's services are in half of U.S. classrooms, 50 percent of all primary schools in the UK, and more than 50 countries. Discovery Education partners with districts, states, and like-minded organizations to captivate students, empower teachers, and transform classrooms with customized solutions that increase academic achievement. Discovery Education is powered by Discovery Communications (NASDAQ: DISCA, DISCB, DISCK), the number one nonfiction media company in the world. Explore the future of education at DiscoveryEducation.com.

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