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## **Players Coalition Awards \$50,000 to Philadelphia School to Help Close the Digital Divide**

Philadelphia, PA -- Science Leadership Academy @ Beeber is among the schools, districts and organizations across the country being awarded grants to help close the digital divide, sponsored by Players Coalition. The nonprofit, founded by NFL players Anquan Boldin and Malcolm Jenkins, is donating \$350,000 grants nationwide to help provide students and schools with the needed technology to set all students up for success with learning from home, despite family income.

The COVID-19 pandemic has further exacerbated education inequities and the digital divide in our country as millions have struggled to get online amidst the transition to distance learning. Approximately 2 out of 3 (59%) parents from lower income homes reported their children will face obstacles when it comes to remote learning due to a lack of access to computers or internet at home, according to a study out of the [Pew Research Center](#).

“Once again, Players Coalition has delivered on their promise to influence and support our community, which impacts systematic social and civics change in education and beyond,” says Christopher Johnson, Founding Principal of Science Leadership Academy at Beeber. “We are forever grateful not just for the grant, but for a community of people who are true to their word and mission.”

“We live in a digital society. Unfortunately, it is a sad reality that there are students who do not have access to computers or internet access at home, which is especially devastating this year when so many schools and districts have taken learning online due to COVID-19,” says Carson Wentz, Players Coalition supporter and quarterback for the Philadelphia Eagles. “Addressing the digital divide, especially when it comes to students, cannot wait. Action must be taken now.”

This year’s grant recipients are part of a larger, years-long initiative from the Players Coalition. Since 2019, the PC Charitable Foundation has awarded more than \$675,000 in grant funds to schools throughout the country to address the digital divide by ensuring internet connectivity and access to STEAM education programming and technology.

### ***About Players Coalition***

Players Coalition is structured as an independent 501(c)(3) (charity) and 501(c)(4) (advocacy) organization, working with professional athletes, coaches and owners across leagues to improve social justice and racial equality in our country.

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