



First in nation: Parlier High School students getting iPads, hot spots

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- **California Emerging Technology Fund makes \$600,000 grant**
- **“Will help our region remain economically competitive”**

Every student at Parlier High School in the Fresno County farming community of Parlier will be getting an iPad Air tablet and a Verizon Internet hot spot at home thanks to a \$600,000 grant from the California Emerging Technology Fund.

It’s a joint project of the Parlier Unified School District, Youth Centers of America and the Fresno State University Office of Community and Economic Development.

“We believe we are the first high school in the U.S. where each student has access to an iPad Air and a personal hot spot,” says Parlier High School Principal Edward Lucero.

“As Internet usage and technology become further integrated in to our daily lives, it is critical that San Joaquin Valley residents are not left behind,” says Mike Dozier, executive director of the Fresno State Office of Community and Economic Development. “This strategic effort to increase broadband adoption will help our region remain economically competitive and will help promote increased educational opportunities, e-commerce, business development, and improve overall quality of life in our region.”

“Our experience shows that connected families are more engaged in their children’s education, and the result is often improved academic achievement,” says Sunne Wright McPeak, California Emerging Technology Fund President and CEO. “The Parlier project is just the beginning. By awarding a \$600,000 grant to Get Connected! San Joaquin Valley, a one-of-a-kind collaboration among San Joaquin Valley education institutions and nonprofit groups focused on youth and job training, together we will work to connect nearly 5,000 low-income Valley residents in seven counties to broadband at home.”