ND SmartLab Program

CDE has partnered with a curriculum provider called Creative Learning Systems (CLS) to provide a blended, project-based learning program designed for North Dakota schools and their students in grades K-12. The program is often described as STEAM focused, but blends curriculum content from all core areas. ND SmartLabs is a turn-key approach to bringing learning opportunities to students that focus on the development of problem-solving skills, critical thinking, collaboration, creativity, and design principals. The ND SmartLab has been customized for ND schools regardless of their size or location.

In a SmartLab, students learn content through cloud based information contained in a "learning launchers" A learning launcher contains all the information that the student and their partner will need for successful project completion including; content knowledge, project instructions, and extension activities. Each SmartLab also comes with designed templates to authentically assess students using journals, presentations, and self-reflections.

SmartLabs come equipped with Dell all-in-one computers, additional hardware, software, and fully assembled project kits that are needed for a successful completion of the learning launchers. The only thing supplied by the local school is room to place the SmartLab, tables and chairs needed for students and equipment and an onsite learning facilitator that will be trained in the environment.

The SmartLab project began during the 2015 school year. Since then, CDE has provided curriculum, support, and training to over 50 facilitators. In 2015, no SmartLabs existed in ND, at the end of the 2020 school year there were 19 operational SmartLabs statewide. Table 5 shows a breakdown of where these SmartLabs are currently in operation and how many students they serve.

Table 5

ND SmartLab locations, grade levels, lab size, and impacted students

District	School	Grades	Lab Size	Year Purchased	Students Exposed to SmartLab
Drake-Anamoose	Drake-Anamoose High School	K-12	18 Learner	2018	191
Fargo Catholic Schools	Nativity Elementary	K-5	24 Learner	2016	186
Fargo Catholic Schools	Trinity Elementary	K-5	24 Learner	2017	240
Fargo Catholic Schools	Holy Spirit Elementary	K-5	18 Learner	2017	72
Fargo Catholic Schools	Sullivan Middle School	6-12	30 Learner	2017	255
Kulm	Kulm Public Schools	K-12	12 Learner	2018	123
LaMoure	LaMoure Public Schools	K-12	24 Learner	2016	298
Lisbon	Lisbon Middle School	K-12	24 Learner	2017	591
Litchville-Marion	Litchville Elementary	K-6	12 Learner	2017	59
Litchville-Marion	Marion High School	6th - 12th	12 Learner	2018	48
Pingree-Buchanan	Pingree High School	6th - 12th	12 Learner	2018	61

Sawyer	Sawyer Public Schools	K-6	6 Learner	2018	25
University of Jamestown	School of Education	K-12	18 Learner	2018	50
New Town	New Town Middle School	6th - 8th	24 Learner	2019	224
Edgeley	Edgeley High School	K-12	12 Learner	2019	113
Gackle	Gackle High School	K-12	12 Learner	2019	19
Devils Lake	Devils Lake Middle School	6th - 8th	24 Learner	2019	525
Minto	Minto Public School	K-12	18 Learner	2019	64
NDCDE	NDCDE	K-12	18 Learner	2015	0

Map Hyperlink: https://goo.gl/maps/kgkeAgrmuofNGLkeA