# The Benefits of Offering Digital Badges in K-12 Education

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#### What is a Digital Badge?



An information-rich, validated indicator of achievement, skill, or interest that can be earned in various learning settings and shared through digital channels.



A portable – and a secure digital representation of many things, such as: learning outcome, experience, competency, specific skills, a set of skills, a certificate program or a course.



Machine readable credentials that are discoverable in digital professional networks. They allow earners to clearly communicate their skills, experience and relevant qualifications to employers, academic institutions, and to their community.



They transform how hard-earned achievements are recognized, shared and rewarded.



The badge is not the thing.
The badge *represents* the thing.







Designed for students to have the ability to clearly communicate their skills and relevant qualifications to employers, academic institutions, and to their community.

### Digital Badges Tell a Story



A life-long story can be complex and diverse – digital badges offer a clear path for the student to showcase skills, knowledge and accomplishments in a verifiable way.



Digital Badges encourage and allow students the chance to tell their educational and professional story.





**Student Participation** 

Certificate

Micro Credentials

Certifications

**Academic Credentials** 

Consider Your Objectives Digital Badges can enhance your school pathway programs and student experiences when developed with these objectives in mind.

What information is most valuable to employers?

What industry standards apply?

What KSAs did the earner acquire?

What is the evidence?







Examples



#### How Digital Badges Can Be Used in K-12



Show CTE
Accomplishment

**Pathway Completion** 

**Academy Certification** 



Show Student's Employability Skills

**Teamwork** 

Leadership



**Show Student's Experience** 

**Cyber Competitions** 

**Outreach Activities** 

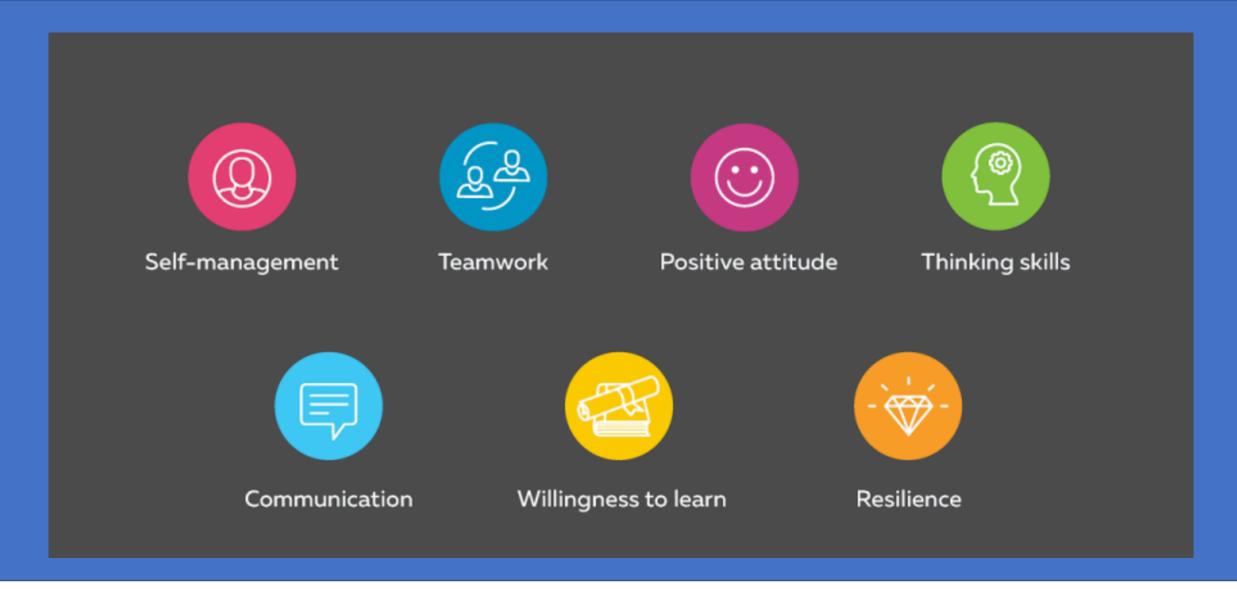


Show the Value of Extra-Curricular Activities

Cyber Teams

**Community Service** 







## Examples of Badges for Cybersecurity Students

- Pathway Completion
- Cyber Team Participation
- Cyber Competitions
- Leadership Roles
- Volunteer Activities













By implementing a digital badge program, students will be able to communicate and tell their story in a dynamic and innovative way that can illustrate and highlight competencies and achievements from your school.

As educational technology rapidly grows, what will your students' digital badge stories be?





Maintain credibility.



Badges that that have currency and are meaningful.



Badges represent value and rigor.



Defining the value.



Ensuring there is deliberate process.



What is the story behind the badge, and does it demonstrate value?



#### Story Behind the Digital Badge





Posting Digital Badges on <u>LinkedIn</u>

Thank you for attending.

Questions?



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