

COVID-19 COMPUTING CHALLENGE

Lieutenant Governor Bysiewicz's COVID-19 Computing Challenge

A statewide challenge to address a global concern.



[For Students](#) ▶

[For Teachers](#) ▶

[For Parents](#) ▶



Inspired by the work of the Governor's
Council on Women and Girls:
Subcommittee on Education and STEAM!

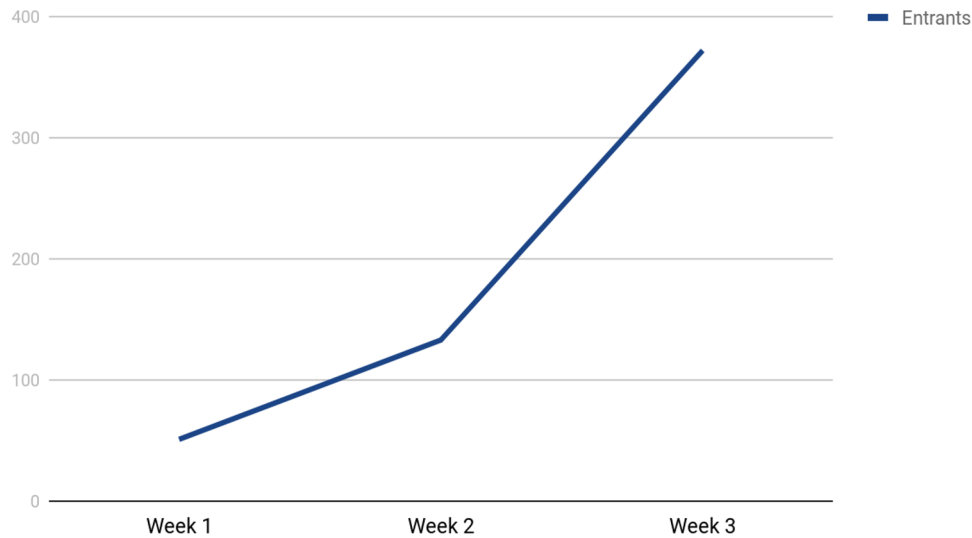
Norman Sondheimer, July 7, 2020



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COVID-19 Computing
Challenge

Response to May 8th Lt. Gov. Announcement

Total Entrants by Week



372 Teams

480 Team Members

116 Schools plus Charter and Private
30% of School Districts

Team Leads

- 54% Female
- 44% Male
- 2% I prefer not to answer
- 0% (2) Non-binary

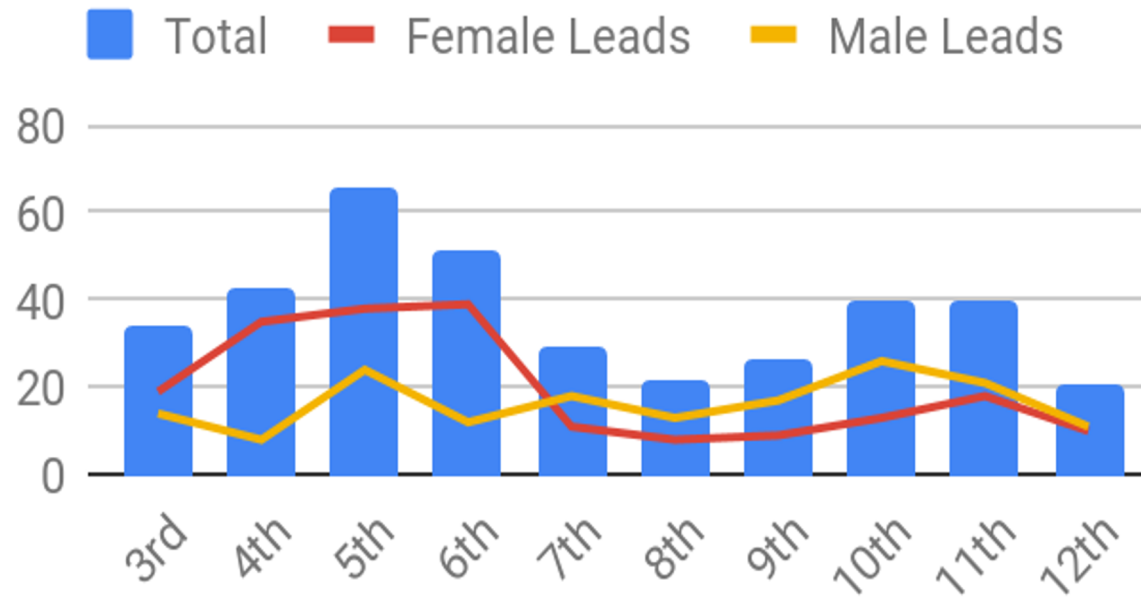
Lt. Governor Virtual Showcase, June 30, 2020
100 Attendees



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Entries by Grade

Total, Female and Male Leads



It is common for
Girls' interest to drop off
in Middle School



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Team Leads by Ethnicity

White:	40%
Asian:	23%
Hispanic/Latino:	10%
Black/African American:	6%
Two or More Races:	8%
I choose not to answer:	13%
American Indian / Alaska Native: (2 total)	0%

Roughly ½ Hispanic/Latino &
Black/African American state ratios

24% of Entrants from Alliance Districts
(38% of CT students)

Only 15% from Neighborhood (non-
Magnet) Schools in Alliance Districts

Lessons Learned and Opportunities

1. Continue with computer application ideas-only and add a second level for students open to greater challenges
2. Continue with accepting independent entries and add support for teachers to integrate the Challenge into course work
3. Partner with organizations capable of taking a continuing role of encouraging middle school girls' interest in technology
4. Integrate the Challenge into CSDE's new Computer Science Plan



The Lt. Governor's
**COVID-19 Computing
Challenge**

From 1st discussion on April 3rd to Launch on May 8th!

AN ASTONISHING TEAM!

COWAG: Noele Kidney, Cherie Phoenix-Sharpe

Tech Champions Team: Carolyn Alessi, Lyn Caliendo, Patrice Gans,
Abigail Jewett, Jennifer Michalek, Ellyn Savard, Norman Sondheimer,
Kristin Violette, Winnie Yu

EdAdvance: Cameron Audia, Matt Mervis

Many, Many Others from the Lt. Governor's Office, Connecticut State
Department of Education and the COWAG Team