

## NEWS RELEASE



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### **Schools Resoundingly Adopt ePals Program For Free Access to Market Leading Online Educational Tools**

**New agreements and signups at epals.com enable 2.5 million additional  
students with safe and protected SchoolM@il and SchoolBlog accounts**

**ePals Global Community now reaches more than 9.6 million learners worldwide**

HERNDON, VA. (October 18, 2007) – On September 10, 2007, ePals announced that the company would offer its award-winning, policy-managed SchoolM@il™, SchoolBlog™ and online literacy curriculum services for free to schools worldwide. Since this program launched more than 2.5 million students have access to these free online tools.

Illustrating that students and educators want to learn and collaborate online where safety is assured, more than 900 schools and 169 districts – including nearly 200 schools and 30 districts in the last month – have signed up for ePals’ free emailing and blogging tools. More than 9.6 million educators and students in 200 countries and territories are now reached by ePals school-safe internet learning community.

“We are thrilled to have ePals recognized SchoolM@il and SchoolBlog tools for our technology rich classrooms in Kansas. This will help increase collaboration and communication, as well as connecting our students to a global community of learners,” said Jana Craig Hare, Associate Director, ALTEC, a Research and Development organization based in Lawrence, KS. Hare was recognized at the T+L conference as one of the “20 to Watch” young leaders in educational technology.

“Having free emailing and blogging tools allows our school to provide collaborative technology to our students, while also freeing up allocated funds to support other programs,” said Adina Popa, Technology Resource Teacher at Potowmack Elementary School in Sterling, VA. “ePals gives us the opportunity to connect with other classrooms around the globe and to make a difference in students’ lives.”

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“When we initiated this program, we knew we were fulfilling an important need for schools across the country and around the globe,” said Ed Fish, President and CEO of ePals. “This incredible adoption in the past month affirms our research that although most schools are wired they often lack the resources to provide the online tools and curricula necessary for effective internet-based learning.”

ePals’ connectivity tools and digital literacy curricula include: SchoolM@il, an integrated, secure email system; SchoolBlog, one of the top literacy education tools for teaching students to express their ideas and to, collaborate with other students and teachers; and In2Books®, an evidence-based literacy curriculum ([www.In2Books.com](http://www.In2Books.com)) that provides a rich, engaging and authentic online learning experience.

All of ePals’ tools are optimized for policy-managed security standards so that each school district or campus can regulate student interactions based on its own specific Internet policies. In addition, these tools give educators the chance to help their students enhance their 21st Century literacy skills, including critical thinking, global awareness, creativity with media tools, and a facility for Internet navigation, all at no cost.

For more information on ePals and company services, please visit [www.epals.com](http://www.epals.com) or corporate site [www.epalscorp.com](http://www.epalscorp.com).

#### **About ePals**

Founded in 1996 and merged with In2Books in 2006, ePals offers K-12 students and teachers around the world a safe environment for building and exchanging knowledge based on protected connectivity tools, evidence-based curricula and authentic, collaborative learning experiences. The ePals Global Learning Community™ ([www.ePals.com](http://www.ePals.com)) is the largest online community of K-12 learners, enabling more than 325,000 educators and 128,000 classrooms across 200 countries and territories to safely connect, exchange ideas, and work together. The company’s mission is to support lifelong learning through collaborative experiences that empower and inspire.

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