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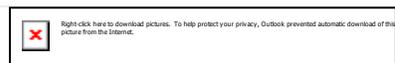

Obama's education legacy reflects edtech gains

As President Obama prepares to turn over the White House, his administration leaves an education legacy notable for its accomplishments as well as controversy. Those accomplishments, including passage of the Every Student Succeeds Act, face an uncertain future under President-elect Trump and his choice for Education Secretary, Betsy DeVos. But within the edtech community, observers suggest Obama's Computer Science for All, ConnectEd and #GoOpen initiatives are likely to enjoy sustained momentum. (White House photo)

Nominate Next Generation EdTech Leaders. The Consortium for School Networking and EdScoop are calling on U.S. schools to help us identify the "Next Generation" of edtech leaders in school districts across the nation. The NextGeneration Leaders program, now in its second year, aims to recognize and support emerging K-12 technology directors who are helping educators make more effective use of education technologies and

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digital content. [Tell us who stands out in your district.](#) The deadline is Jan. 13.

Virtual reality is becoming reality at Lehman College in New York City. The college, part of the City University of New York system, has teamed up with virtual reality software and solutions provider EON Reality Inc. to establish a new Interactive Digital Center. Plans also include development of a new Virtual and Augmented Reality [(VR/AR) Training Academy and Development Lab at Lehman College](#) and a new program to help develop applications for VR/AR students to use and learn about.

Maryland Department of Education edtech director Val Emrich, in a newly released interview with EdScoop, says the state is working with Amazon's Inspire platform to host [Maryland's new digital resources platform](#) for state educators. The move reflects efforts to harvest, and make available, "thousands of resources" created and identified during Maryland's participation in the national Race to the Top initiative. In a separate interview, [Utah State Board of Education's Rick Gaisford](#) shares what's next for the state's school districts, with plans to build upon Utah's statewide broadband network.

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Here's our list of what you should read this week:

- **The declining productivity of education**, *Brookings*
- **College students show how easy it is to use terrifying genetic engineering technology**, *Gizmodo*
- **What these high schoolers learned about the Internet may shock you!**, *Hechinger Report*
- **The blurry definitions of adaptive vs. personalized learning**, *Campus Technology*
- **College of Southern Nevada's expands its cybersecurity program**, *Las Vegas Review-Journal*

EdScoop features the latest news and conversations with top leaders driving technology and digital learning in K-12 and higher education, bringing together influential policy and decision makers at the federal, state & local education levels.

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