

/ EDTECH

OPEN DIGITAL EDUCATION ACCELERATES THE ROLL-OUT OF ITS EDUCATIONAL SOCIAL NETWORK WITH €2 MILLION IN INVESTMENT FROM EDUCAPITAL AND IMPACT PARTENAIRES

Since 2010, Open Digital Education, the number-one social network in France for primary schools, middle schools, and high schools, has made collaboration a major pillar of its approach by involving the entire educational community, including teachers, students, parents, and administrative personnel, in its solutions. Open Digital Education's primary goal is to help students take an active role in their education. Through its simple and intuitive solutions, the company offers students a place to create interactive content where they can actively learn how to use digital technologies and social networks in a responsible manner. To expand the roll-out of its social network, which has already proved its worth with 4.5 million users in 21 countries, Open Digital Education is announcing a recent €2 million investment from Educapital and IMPACT Partenaires. With double-digit growth and accelerating international expansion, Open Digital Education is wrapping up a successful 2018 and heading into the new year with a bang. Read on to learn more...

Revolutionizing virtual learning environments (VLEs) with a participatory approach

Founded eight years ago in Paris, Open Digital Education has built its reputation on the educational and collaborative approach behind VLEs (virtual learning environments). Today, the network is used in twenty-one countries throughout the world, including France, Brazil, Mexico, Japan, and the United States, and features two offers: ONE, which is designed for primary schools, and NEO, which is geared towards middle schools and high schools. Both are available in six languages (French, English, Italian, Portuguese, Spanish, and German). These complementary solutions are adapted to suit the age of their users while still offering a seamless experience from kindergarten to senior year.



“Digital technologies offer an impressive array of opportunities for sharing, creating, and collaborating. Our goal is to create a safe framework for learning that uses the same rules as the outside world. With our solution, however, teachers can provide guidance and help students make the most of digital technologies...while avoiding the pitfalls,” says Arnaud Albou and Olivier Vigneau, founders of Open Digital Education.

The Paris-based company is actively involved in the protection of education and personal data. It hosts its solutions in France and works closely with communities and the French Department of Education to tailor its solutions to the needs of the educational community.

Key figures
4.5 million users
Present in 21 countries
40 employees
€3 million in sales

Investing in disadvantaged school districts

Open Digital Education is announcing a 2 million euro investment by Educapital, an investment fund specialized in education and training, and IMPACT Partenaires, a socially oriented management company. This fundraising campaign allows Open Digital Education to expand its existing team and accelerate its growth, especially on the international stage. Open Digital Education would also like to enhance its social impact by helping to implement its solutions in disadvantaged school districts and by reducing digital illiteracy.

“As specialists in education technology, we were drawn to Open Digital Education’s open and innovative approach. With its modular and customizable platform, school districts can make the solution their own and adapt it to match their regional priorities, such as in the case of large-scale roll-outs involving both primary and secondary schools,” says Litzie Maarek from Educapital.

“The network’s ease of use and collaborative approach help strengthen ties between schools and families and facilitate the inclusion of less experienced digital users, especially in disadvantaged school districts. Open Digital Education helps elementary school students learn about digital technologies in a controlled environment and introduces young middle school and high school students to the professional world in a positive and open manner. Open Digital Education’s social network offers a way to address these major issues,” says Thomas Delalande and Samir Matki from IMPACT Partenaires.

/ About Open Digital Education

Based in Paris, Open Digital Education is the leading educational social network for primary schools, middle schools, and high schools. Created in 2010, Open Digital Education is revolutionizing virtual learning environments by creating educational solutions based on creativity and teamwork that allow users to create educational content, facilitate educational projects, communicate, share, and learn to use digital technologies and social networks independently and responsibly. For more information: <http://opendigitaleducation.com>

/ About Educapital

Created in 2017 by Marie-Christine Levet and Litzie Maarek, Educapital is an investment fund specialized in edtech, i.e. the use of technology and innovation to facilitate education and training. Valued at €47, Educapital invests in innovative European companies operating in the education sector. The fund is involved in every market segment, including early childhood, primary school, middle school, high school, university, professional training, and continuing education, and all economic models. For more information: www.educapital.fr

/ About IMPACT Partenaires

IMPACT Partenaires is a socially oriented management company that supports brands that are generating significant social impact (job market access, people with disabilities, training), especially in under-advantaged areas. IMPACT Partenaires helps entrepreneurs who would like to scale up their projects (€0.1 M to €4 M in equity) or set up a franchise in working-class neighborhoods (€50,000 to €500,000 in quasi-equity). For more information: <http://www.impact.fr>

This operation was completed with support from Ascentum Consulting, Satis Avocats, EBL Lexington, and the firm SB’s.

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