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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### LMS Students Chosen as “Best in State” for Verizon App Challenge

West Fargo, ND – (January 16, 2017) – A team of 6<sup>th</sup> grade students from Liberty Middle School recently won “Best in State” for the development of their “Get A Pet” app idea for the 2016-2017 Verizon Innovative App Challenge. The student team worked collaboratively to create an app idea during core classes on Team Infinity. It shows pets that are in nearby shelters as well as a description (photo, male/female, breed, etc.) of the pets that are up for adoption. The app also includes maps and contact information for nearby veterinarians, animal shelters, and pet-friendly activities.

The 2016-2017 Liberty Middle School “Best in State” team is comprised of Hunter Gustafson, Owen Linn, Dylan Scott, Dustyn Olsen, Sylvia Frank and Olivia Krystosek. The team is advised by LMS staff members Gretchen Peterson, Jen Colter, Gretchen Stafslie, and Johanna Ibarra. The team and advisors will receive a \$5,000 cash award to promote STEM education in their school. Each team member will also receive a Verizon Ellipsis Tablet. The “Get a Pet” app team now qualifies to compete for both the “Best in Region,” “Fan Favorite,” and “Best in Nation” award titles.

For more information on the students’ app, visit the [app challenge website](#) and vote via text message by sending GETPET to 22333. “Fan Favorite” voting is open from January 16 – February 14.