

March 1, 2021

To Whom It May Concern:

I am the former Superintendent of Park City School District, in Park City, UT. See the District website for more information about the schools and the demographics at <https://www.pcschools.us/>

We were interested in expanding computer science opportunities to all of the elementary students in the District, over 40% of whom were receiving free or reduced lunch and over 20% of whom were English-Language Learners (ELL). We wanted to work with a group who understood how to implement such programs and also had curriculum and other resources to assist our Technology Specialists at each of our four elementary schools, who were certified teachers who were now being asked to teach coding, computer science and computational thinking to our students. We decided to start with all students in the 1st and 2nd grades and expanded over the coming years. Computer Science is now part of what all of the elementary students are learning in all grades.

When I began understanding the vision for teaching a new language to children, I was skeptical, but I knew the demand by industry for students to have more competencies in computer science. As I saw the coding program in action, I was blown away! After watching a first-grader explain an algorithm and a sequence to her classmates, I knew this was an educational revolution and wanted to make sure my students had the exposure and opportunity to learn the language of code.

We recommend BootUp Professional Development highly and we have recommended their work to many other districts in Utah and around the country. It is wonderful to see how transformative it is when students are learning this important literacy and their teachers are empowered. Please feel free to contact me if you have any additional questions.

Sincerely,

Ember Conley

Ember Conley, EdD

Former Superintendent of Schools

Park City School District

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