## Superintendent's Highlight of the Week December 9<sup>th</sup>, 2016

This was our third annual Hour of Code week and our students took advantage of upgrading their coding skills with activities planned in each building. The Hour of Code is a global movement that takes place during Computer Science Week, and is designed to give students the opportunity to write computer code by exposing them to computer programming in a way that is fun and motivating. Through coding, students develop problem-solving skills, create algorithms, use logical thought processes to analyze information, and synthesize it in a meaningful way. Many of our students enjoy the experience so much, that they continue to participate in coding activities and



explore the world of computer programming even after the week has concluded.



Our elementary students participated in activities including Bitsbox.com (building Apps), playcodemonkey.com (coding in real programming language), kodable (programming basics for k and 1 students).



The middle and high school students participated in assemblies and workshops throughout the week. We even had parents who work in the field

of Computer Science speak with students about the multitude of career choices available to them. Students at this level are really motivated by coding through gaming and programs for popular apps such as Minecraft and current computer-animated films such as Moana and Star Wars. All activities were organized through our Libraries and were a big hit!

It was invigorating to observe the excitement of students K-12 as they engaged in these meaningful, life changing activities. I think I even spotted some future Steve Jobs replacements in our Kindergarten classes. Awesome!!!