

BITS AND BYTES *from* ITS



SAN DIEGO COUNTY
OFFICE OF EDUCATION

INTEGRATED TECHNOLOGY SERVICES

COMPUTER SCIENCE EDUCATION EXPANDING IN SAN DIEGO

Several schools across San Diego County have answered the call to introduce more students to computer science through coding. Whether teachers have participated in the Hour of Code movement or have implemented a full computer science curriculum, there is a collective understanding that all students benefit from learning the concepts taught through coding and other computer science activities. Educators and industry leaders agree that students should have the opportunity to learn computer science and explore the possibilities of pursuing computer science in their academic and professional careers.



In October, the SDCOE Professional Learning and Technology Research team gathered educators for a three-day Coding in the Classroom workshop to survey many of the most popular tools and resources available to bring coding and computer science instruction to schools and districts. Participants were able to experience the most popular applications and resources including Apple's Swift Playgrounds, Microsoft's Minecraft Edu and Code.org's computer science curriculum for elementary schools. Participants also learned about additional coding apps, programs and websites designed to support coding instruction for all students. Teachers who attended provided very positive feedback. A second three-day session is scheduled for March and has already reached capacity.

Code.org, one of the leading national organizations that assists educators with introducing and implementing coding in K-12, hosted an event at SDCOE to provide school leaders with an overview of how computer science instruction could be expanded at their sites. Thirty school leaders from school districts across San Diego County attended the event and learned from Code.org and its partners, The Elementary Institute of Science and the CREATE program at UC San Diego. Code.org is also providing summer coding workshops for elementary, middle, and high school educators at SDCOE in July.

Contact SDCOE Professional Learning and Tech Research at 858-292-3537 for more information.