

February 3, 2023

Dear Minnesota Legislators,

I'm writing this letter in support of House Bill 759 and Senate Bill 757, The Computer Science Education Advancement Fund. I support teaching computer science to include introductory, intermediate, and advanced curriculum in kindergarten through grade 12 through developmental curriculum, aligned to Computer Science Teachers Association (CSTA) and Information Technology Educators of Minnesota (ITEM) standards and practices.

I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Elementary Education and a Master's Degree in Educational Media and Technology, both from The College of St. Scholastica in Duluth. I've been teaching elementary, middle, and high school as a K-12 media specialist, elementary classroom teacher and School Technology Coordinator in Duluth for over 28 years. In that time, we have seen computer science expand immensely in the world around us, but we have not kept up with that change in our K-12 schools. The lack of computer science education in our schools leaves students at a loss and deters economic development in our state, especially in greater Minnesota.

I've raised five children who attended Duluth Public Schools. They've had limited, if any, experience with computer science in their K-12 education. The few activities they participated in were teacher's passion projects, not part of the developmental curriculum, aligned to standards, and were not carried out consistently. In my opinion, as a parent, my children were ill-prepared for career and college after high school. They saw no connection to opportunities related to computer science in their future.

I support teaching computer science to include introductory, intermediate, and advanced curriculum in kindergarten through grade 12. Please contact me via email if you have questions or comments or if I can be of service in any way.

Sincerely,

Cindy Miller

Cindy Miller

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