



BOSTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS PROMOTE LITERACY AND CELEBRATE DIGITAL LEARNING WITH BOOMWRITER TECHNOLOGY HEROES PROGRAM

*Interactive Web-based Reading and Writing Platform Engages Boston Students in
Collaborative Story Creation and Publishing*

Boston, Mass., May 7, 2013 – Boston Public Schools and [BoomWriter Media, Inc.](#), an education technology company focused on collaborative storytelling and book publishing, today announced the launch of the [BoomWriter Technology Heroes Program](#), a new initiative that helps teachers become Technology Champions in their classrooms. This Web-based literacy program brings enthusiastic educators, celebrities and corporate sponsors together to promote literacy and inspire children to become master storytellers using new technology and collaborative writing projects.

This February, Boston Public Schools joined the Commonwealth in celebrating the first annual Digital Learning Month - a nationwide campaign for wide-scale adoption of promising digital learning practices. To further their commitment to digital learning, Boston Public Schools will introduce the *Technology Heroes Program* within the district to celebrate creative writing and engage digital learners with this innovative platform.

“This is an exciting partnership that not only enables educational innovation in the 21st century, but aligns with the district's goal to prepare our students for college and career success,” says Melissa Dodd, the Chief Information Officer of the Boston Public Schools.

Using the BoomWriter platform, Boston students will select story starts written by authors, athletes or celebrities, including the latest one penned by Pebbles from *Pebbles' Reading Rockstars* and Hot 96.9 Boston FM Radio. Story starts are first chapters that spark the imaginations of kids and inspire them to write the subsequent parts of the story with their peers. Using the generous support of corporate partners, BoomWriter will convert these stories into published books. Each participating student will receive a free copy and enjoy the thrill of seeing their names in print. The program will also offer participating schools a chance to win a mini-portable computer lab for their class.

“The *Technology Heroes Program* is a great way to promote digital learning and provide children the tools they need to thrive in a tech-savvy society,” said Ken Haynes, vice president of product development for BoomWriter Media. “We're thrilled to partner with the Boston Public Schools and offer their teachers an easy to use instructional tool that adheres to the [Common Core State Standards](#). We are confident BoomWriter will provide a wonderful and engaging learning experience for all students.”

BoomWriter inspires children to bring their stories to life online and in print. The creative process starts with the first part of a story written by a professional writer. Students then are encouraged to write what they think should happen next in the story. After submitting their work online, students read the chapters of their peers and vote for the most appealing chapter. Once the winning chapter is selected, it is added to the story and the process continues until a book is completed.

The *BoomWriter Technology Heroes Program* is available nationwide and invites school districts, youth organizations and corporations that would like to get involved with the program to visit <http://boomwriter.com/Home/TechnologyHeroes>.

About Boston Public Schools

The Boston Public Schools, the birthplace of public education in the United States, serves more than 57,000 pre-kindergarten through grade 12 students in 128 schools.

About BoomWriter Media

BoomWriter Media of Cambridge, Massachusetts is a digital education company that engages children and educators in collaborative storytelling. Our innovative Web-based publishing platform brings passionate educators, technology experts, corporate sponsors, enthusiastic parents, and students together to promote and develop creativity, writing, reading, critical thinking and other essential 21st century skills. BoomWriter partners with authors, celebrities, and educators to provide first chapters, also known as story starts, that spark kids' imaginations and inspire story collaboration with classmates and children worldwide in competition for publication. Teachers and students from more than 4,000 schools in 60 countries have already joined the BoomWriter community. For more information, go to <http://www.BoomWriter.com>. Follow us @BoomWriter_ or become a fan at www.facebook.com/BoomWriter.

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