LET'S LIGHT A FIRE!

Kasey McCurdy
VP of Engineering @ Bunchball
@pyroblue
“IT WAS RIDICULOUS.

My professor was telling me to take my passion and move it somewhere else cause the university didn't want it.”
“SOLVING TESTS IS NOT PROBLEM SOLVING”
ONLY 22% OF THE CLASS OF 2015 WAS CONSIDERED PREPARED FOR COLLEGE

Source: Iowa Assessments Profile Report for College Readiness
“We are losing them. They’re just not as engaged as they could be...”
ENGAGEMENT = SUCCESS
NOW + LATER
A Costly Engagement Problem

- 13% Engaged
- 63% Not Engaged
- 24% Actively Disengaged

Source: Gallup Polling
56% of high school students are not actively involved or invested in school.

Source: 2012 Gallup Student Poll
About to eat my vegan, gluten free, soy free, antibiotics free, raw, non GMO, organic, fat free, low carb dinner
30x MORE LIKELY TO BE ENGAGED when educators know and committed to building their STRENGTHS.

Source: Gallup Education
future ready.
BUNCHBALL IOWA, 2016
BUNCHBALL IOWA, 2018?
future. ready?
What are the jobs of our future?
What skills should we focus on?
“Most people, throughout history and the world, have been funneled into jobs based on what’s needed, what their family does, what will earn them enough money to live on, what they’re allowed to do and what they can afford to train in. If they like their job -- all the better!”
ONE SURE-FIRE WAY TO THRIVE IN OUR FUTURE IS TO... INVENT IT.
“We need everyone to be innovating new products and services to employ the people who are being liberated from routine work by automation and software.

The winners won’t just be those with more I.Q. It will also be those with more P.Q. (passion quotient) and C.Q. (curiosity quotient)...to not just find a job, but to invent one or reinvent one, and to not just learn but to relearn for a lifetime...”

Thomas Friedman
The New York Times
COMMON CORE

ASSESSMENT

STANDARDIZE
PASSION!
“The only people that will change the world are people who want to. And not everybody does...”

Hugh MacLeod, Author
62% of Millennials think their college degree has “paid off”
84% of Generation X agree their college experience has “paid off”

89% of Baby Boomers agree their college experience has “paid off”
$35,000+
2015 Average Student Debt
The word “college” isn’t even in Google’s official guide to hiring.

http://www.google.com/about/careers/lifeatgoogle/hiringprocess/
EDUCATION IS IMPORTANT.
LEARNING IS VITAL.
PASSION IS NON-NEGOTIABLE.
Let’s not give every 18-year-old kid a blank check and false promises.

- Me
NEARLY HALF OF ALL TEACHERS HAVE CONSIDERED QUITTING DUE TO THE STRESSES OF STANDARDIZED TESTING

Source: National Education Agency Survey, 2014
THE GOOD NEWS:
YOU ARE A FORCE MULTIPLIER
THE GOOD NEWS:
THE FIX IS SIMPLE
THE GOOD NEWS:
PASSION IS FUELED BY SMALL ACTS OF AWESOME
BE DECENT.
WORK HARD.

LEARN TO
INTERACT WITH
EVERYONE.

EVERYTHING IS
JUST PROBLEM
SOLVING.

IT'S OK TO
BREAK STUFF.

TAKE RISKS.
YOU CAN
CREATE
ANYTHING.

WORK HARD.
PLAY HARD.
Every fire, large or small, starts with one spark. It’s the fuel that turns it into an inferno.
BE SOMEONE’S FUEL.