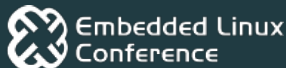




THE LINUX FOUNDATION



NORTH AMERICA

Open Source Starts Here: Lessons Learned from Building Linux Clubs For Students

Stu Keroff





Stu Keroff
Technology Teacher
Asian Penguins & Penguin Corps Founder
Lake Middle School

Aspen Academy 2023



Dear Mr. Keroff...



Founded 3 out of 5 of MN's First School Linux Clubs

Community School
of Excellence
Asian Penguins



Aspen Academy
Penguin Corps



Lake Middle School
Penguin Corps



1

Good clubs are often born from solving real problems — not from trying to “start a club.”

Community School of Excellence



The Beginning 2011-2012

CSE starts 1:1



The First Group of Penguins – World's 1st School Linux Club*



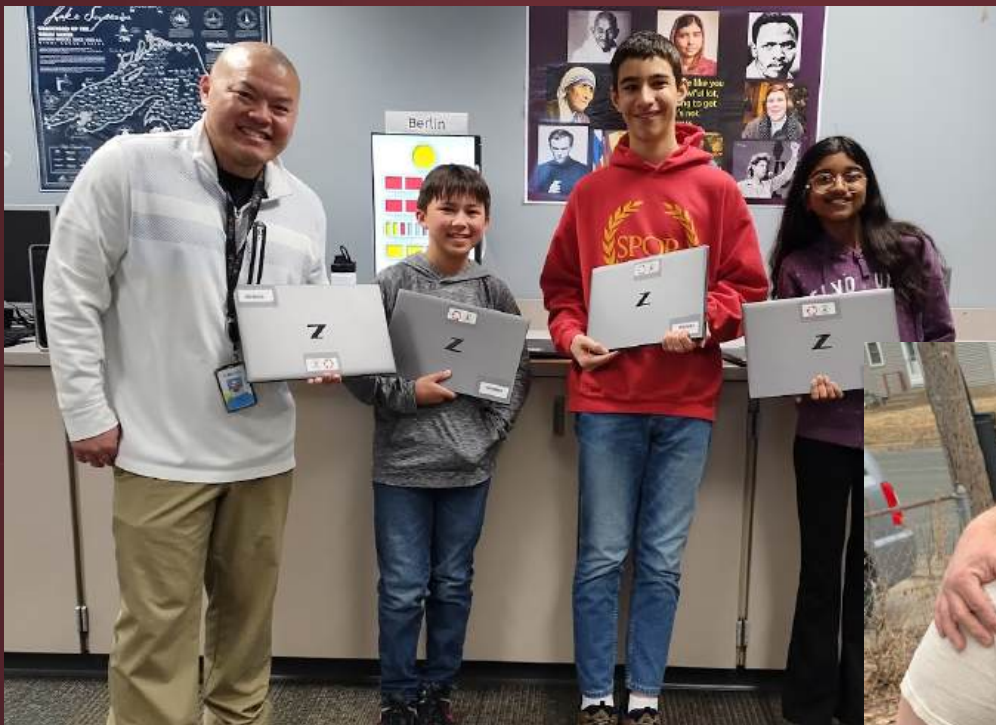
*According to Chat GPT and Google Gemini.

2

A club can start as an extracurricular activity
and become a movement.







3

Students will work harder for a mission than they ever will for a lesson plan.

Getting The Work Done



4

Schools are often willing to try open source through extracurriculars long before they will adopt it institution-wide.

South Washington County District



- 4 high schools
- 4 middle schools
- 8,000 Chromebooks through 1:1 program

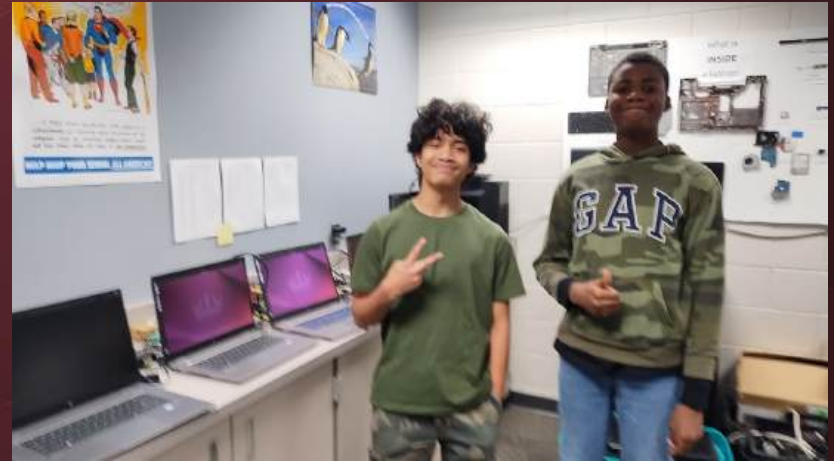
Laptops for my room at Aspen



5

A Linux club does not need new computers.
In fact, you can make miracles happen with
old ones.

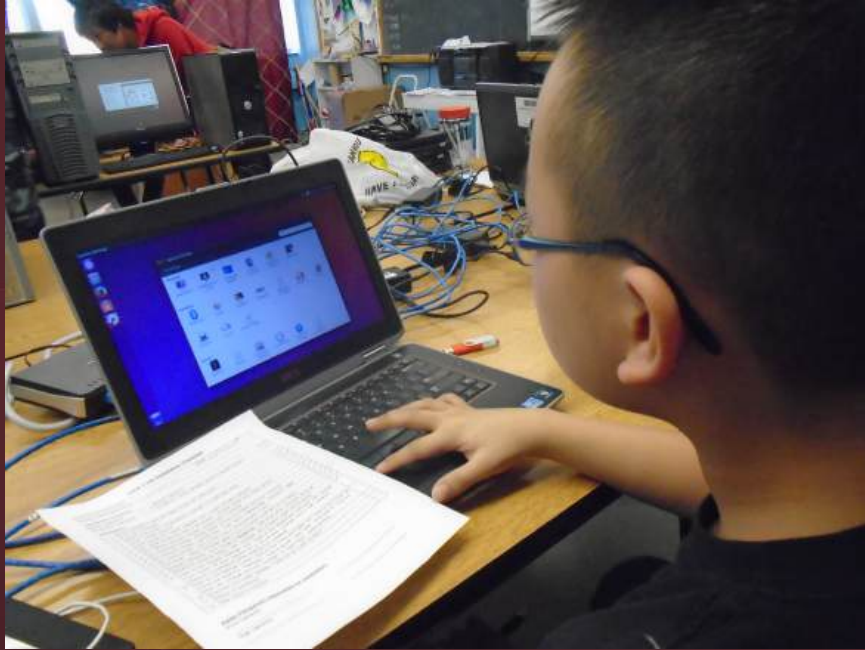
Generic Work Day – May 2026



6

Failure is inevitable when students are learning real technology — and that's exactly why the learning is authentic.

It's Great When It Works!



7

Open source gives students permission to be creators instead of just consumers of technology.

Student Created Posters



Penguin Corps

Have fun with Computers & Linux

Penguin Corps Trimester 2 starts Tuesday, January 7.
Meetings are Tuesdays OR Wednesdays.
Registration forms available in room D103.
Registration due Wednesday, December 18.



A long time ago in a galaxy far far away...

PENGUIN CORPS

The Penguin Corps Strikes Back

Join Penguin Corps Today!

Enlist Today!

Penguin Corps Trimester 2 starts Tuesday, January 7. Meetings are Tuesday OR Wednesdays. Registration forms available in room D103. Registration due Wednesday, December 18.



penguin corps

u should join!

i love free software!
lots of fun!

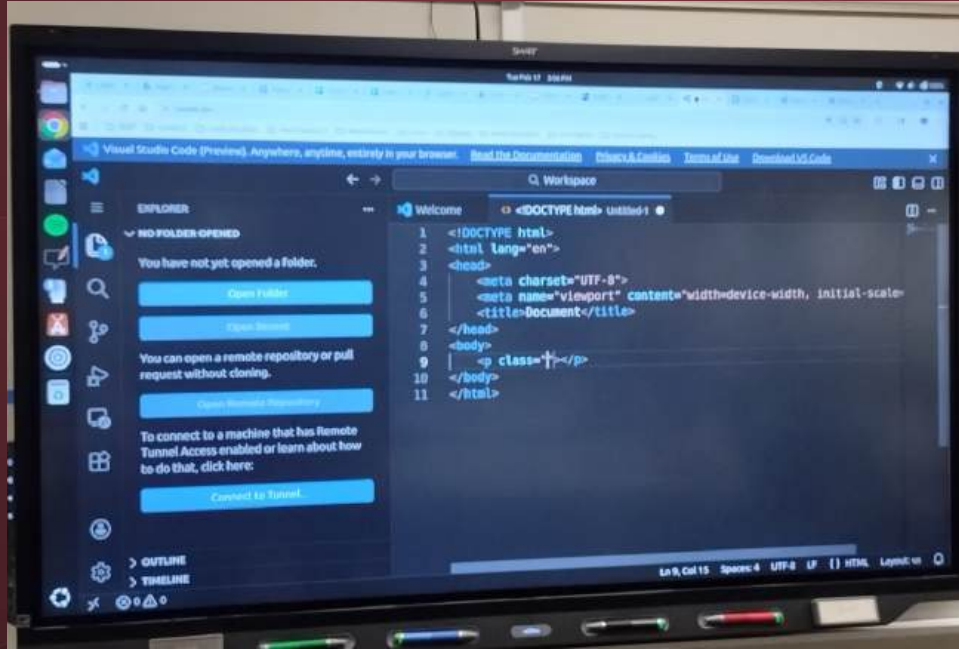
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8

Students rise to the level of responsibility
you trust them with.

HTML Lesson



Students As Admins



9

Diversity matters. Representation matters.
Inclusion matters. And they take work.

A Lack of Diversity



All students
pictured are
Hmong. None
are Karenni.

First Mission With A Karenni



There
she is!

Girl Representation – Enter Raegan!



10

After fourteen years, I've learned that teaching kids Linux was never the real goal. Teaching them that they can change their world was.

The Memories of 14 Years



Leader: What are we trying to do?

People: Change the world!

Leader: How do you change the world?

People: Be crazy enough to think you can!

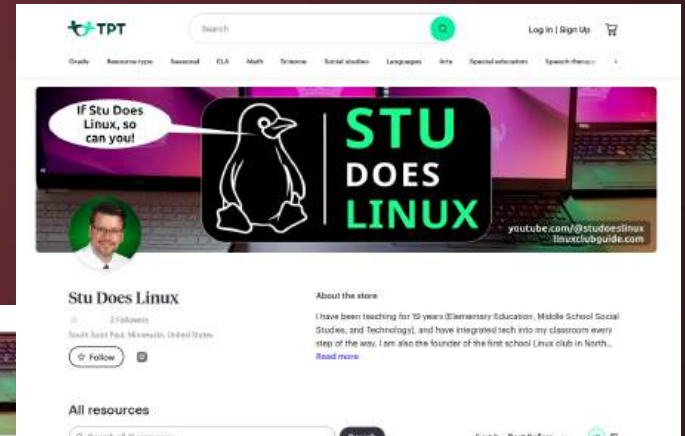
Thank you!

Any questions?

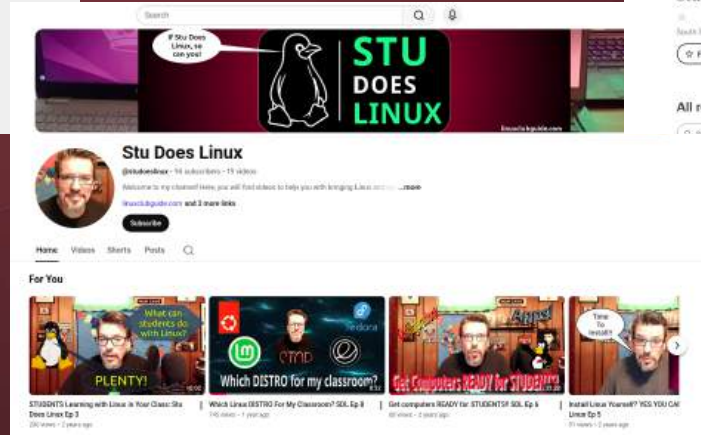
Starting a Linux Club? Resources!



The Linux Club Guide



Teachers Pay Teachers



Stu Does Linux YouTube

Contact

Email: studoeslinux@gmail.com

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Threads: [@studoeslinux](#)

YouTube: youtube.com/@studoeslinux

My guide: www.linuxclubguide.com

My store: teacherspayteachers.com/store/stu-does-linux