Digital Tools in Urban Schools

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CHAPTER 1

1. This research collaboration received funding through the Chancellor’s Award for Advancing Institutional Excellence at the University of California, Berkeley, and a Corey Grant from the University of California, Berkeley, as well as support from the Digital Youth Project funded by the McArthur Foundation.

2. Village Tech High is a pseudonym for this continuation high school.

3. Pseudonyms are used for all of the teachers and students whose work is discussed in this book and for the school site where the research was conducted.

4. The following are several of the key works that contribute to the discourse on reasons why public schools are failing as well as the limits of numerous reform efforts: Anyon 1997, 2005; Carrol et al. 2004; Cuban 2004; Fruchter 2007; Kozol 1991, 2006; Mickelson 2003; Nieto 2005; Noguera and Wing 2006; Oakes 2005; Ogbu 2003; Witt 2007.


6. Five graduate students, one postdoctoral student, one undergraduate student, and one faculty member in addition to the author were key participants in the TEACH Project from the university during the 2007–8 school year.

7. Five of the teachers who participated were women, and three were men. All except two were under 35 years old. One participant was a Korean woman, and one was a white man. The other six participants were African American. The principal was a 41-year-old, Latino man.

CHAPTER 2

1. The hyphy hip-hop movement began in northern California around 2000 and, in part, is an offshoot of the crunk hip-hop musical style. It is characterized by gritty, thumping sounds and unique dance moves. It also has colorful phrases like “getting hyphy,” “getting stupid,” and “getting dumb.” So when Deja said, “We went stupid,” it was a good thing.