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For more information contact:

Claire Alexander

LearnZillion, Inc.

415-496-5316

clairealexander@learnzillion.com

lauren@cblohm.com

Lauren West

C. Blohm & Associates, Inc.

608-216-7300, ext. 26

Three Utah Educators Participating in National 'Dream Team'

Teachers selected from an international pool of 4,000 to participate in LearnZillion's TeachFest, the premier professional development event for the Common Core



Eric Westendorf (CEO), Lauren Burton, Melissa Hesterman, Jennifer Shirts

WASHINGTON, DC (June 16, 2014) - Three Utah teachers spent June 4-7 in New Orleans participating in [TeachFest](#), a unique professional development event focused on creating high-quality Common Core curricular resources. The educators attended the event as part of LearnZillion's national [Dream Team](#) of 200 talented math and English language arts (ELA) teachers.

At TeachFest, the Dream Team kicked-off a rigorous summer-long collaboration with educators from around the country - deepening their understanding of the Common Core State Standards and gathering best practices as input for their work with [LearnZillion](#). Dream Team members have now returned to their respective districts to continue their work as part of a LearnZillion-facilitated digital professional learning community (PLC).

Participants from Utah included: Lauren Burton, Alpine School District; Melissa Hesterman, Mountain Heights Academy; and Jennifer Shirts, Jordan School District.

"Like every member of our Dream Team, these educators embraced this challenging professional learning opportunity because they are passionate about developing their practice and scaling their impact for the benefit of teachers and students around the world," said Eric Westendorf, LearnZillion CEO. "It is an honor to work with and to champion talented, impact-oriented educators like this group

from Utah.”

The diverse 2014 Dream Team members were selected from a competitive pool of 4,000 applicants. They represent 42 states, three countries (U.S., Singapore and Tunisia) and over 2,300 years of teaching experience, ranging from two to 42 years in the classroom. [Click here](#) for a complete list of educators.

About LearnZillion

[LearnZillion](#) champions teachers and provides schools and districts with an effective bridge to the Common Core. LearnZillion Premium’s math curricular resources and close reading/writing program are built by a [Dream Team](#) of top educators directly from the standards to unlock the instructional potential of teachers and prepare every student for the rigorous new assessments. A [flexible learning platform](#) allows schools and districts to develop teacher leaders as they customize a high-quality curriculum for every building. Over 400,000 teachers now use the LearnZillion platform. Customers include District of Columbia Public Schools, Syracuse City Public Schools, the Delaware Department of Education, the Connecticut State Department of Education and various school consortia throughout the United States. Founded in 2011 by two former teachers, LearnZillion is on *Fast Company's* [World's Top 10 Most Innovative Companies in Education](#). Connect online at [@LearnZillion](#) and [www.LearnZillion.com](#).

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