Imagine you are a student – or a teacher – at school, and you encounter a technical issue with your computer or smartphone. You need it resolved, but you can’t leave the building and the IT teacher is in class.

Now imagine a student – or a team of them – standing by and ready to help. It’s a group of community-minded technologists able to solve your problem, and even teach you how to fix it yourself if it happens again. That’s the vision behind AceraEI’s Tech Hub.

At AceraEI’s K-9th grade lab school, Tech Hub is a place where students explore computers, smartphones, tablets, robotics, and other tech.

Through respectful disassembly, they master a device’s working parts. Here, students learn to repair their own computers, phones, and smartwatches. They can bring an iPhone back to life, or upgrade a MacBook to run the newest operating system smoothly. From there, they become members of a “Tech Team” able to help classmates.

By taking things apart and using their imagination, Tech Team members then catalyze a new series of projects as they invent new devices – like a table top “cleaning bot” that can sense when it nears the edge – to fill a need at school.

Developing emotional intelligence skills alongside a wide array of technological abilities, Tech Hub members model and spread an attitude of fearlessness in using STEM tools to solve real technical problems in school and beyond!

AceraEI is making the case to public school districts that Tech Hubs can be implemented in schools easily, both as a philosophy and a place. It can start as simply as a cart in a cafeteria with one student fired up to be a knowledgable, technically skillful community member ready to lend a hand to fellow students.

Join us in catalyzing education innovation in public schools!