Teaching CS AP Principles

BREAKOUT DISCUSSION
Role of AP Courses

- Rethinking process: in part an AP course should be an invitation to explore the field and promote going into that subject

- Roles of CS Principles course:
  - Convey specific CS concepts; e.g., recursion, algorithm...
  - Point out larger implications on STEM, such as data-driven science
  - Introduce social ramifications; e.g., digital ethics, cyber warfare...

- Issues of balance and of assessment
Pilots

- Intentionally diverse, with no specific plans of settling on a canon (beyond the 7 big ideas and 6 CT practices)
- No canonical linguistic vehicle
- Issues on how to make the AP test
  - Difficult to test on qualitative concepts
  - Is a language-independent test possible?
- No process on convergence on detailed syllabus at this time
- Possible feedback mini-tests during the course
How to structure teachers’ professional development so AP CS Principles can transition to HS?
- Role of online instructions?
- Depth of instructions?

Can we go beyond STEM HS teachers for teaching CS Principles