

# **Education Technology Market Update**

July 2023



## **Executive Summary**



## Edtech M&A activity remains robust as consolidation and add-ons for PE backed portfolio companies continue to drive activity

# Edtech Deal Activity Continues Despite Declines in other Sectors

- Despite an overall slowdown in the market, Edtech M&A deal volume has remained stable for the last 4 QTRs
- Edtech deal volume has primarily been driven by PE sponsored companies seeking to consolidate in their respective niches
- By far, the most active subsector in Q1 was the K12 space



#### As K12 Seems to be the Subsector in Need of the Most Support

- In June, NAEP (the 'Nation's Report Card') shows math skills of 13 yr olds have reset to the level of the 1990s, while reading levels are lower than they were in 1971
- In May, the Surgeon General called youth mental health "the defining public health issue of our time"
- These downward trends were further exacerbated by the Pandemic



#### While it is Unclear How Recent Developments Will Affect the Sector

- The corporate training market is seeing some softness, even though the unemployment rate remains steadily below 4%
- In June, the Supreme Court strikes down college Affirmative Action programs
- The launch of ChatGPT in Nov sparks viral consumer adoption, and catalyzes interest in Generative AI for its potential and challenges within education



#### **Edtech Deal Activity Buoyed by Strategic Acquisitions**



## U.S. Edtech M&A Deal Volume Remains Strong Driven by Strategic Deals



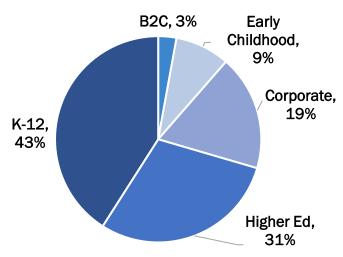
#### U.S. Edtech Aggregate M&A Deal Value Has Seen Steady Increases Over the Last 4 QTRs



## Global Edtech Venture Funding Is Projected to Significantly Decline in 2023



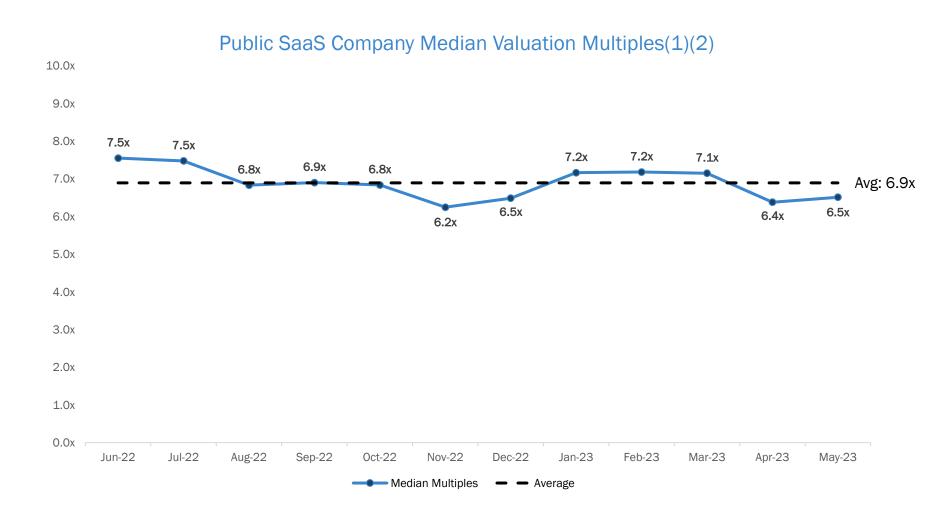
43% of U.S. Edtech Deals were in the K12 Sector in Q1 2023



## **Public SaaS Company Index**



Public SaaS company multiples have stabilized in the last twelve months



<sup>(1)</sup> Index created by SaaS Capital

<sup>(2)</sup> Multiple of Market Cap to Annualized Current Run Rate Revenue Source: SaaS Capital Index (SCI) Valuation Multiples

## **Select Public Comps** (Education Services and Edtech)



#### K-12 & Higher Ed

(\$ in millions)	n millions) Valuation Metrics (Per Latest LTM)						
Company	Enterprise Value <sup>(1)</sup>	Revenue	EBITDA	Margin <sup>(2)</sup>	3-Year Rev CAGR <sup>(3)</sup>	EV/Rev	EV/EBITDA
Pearson plc	\$ 8,300	\$ 3,840	\$ 497	12.9%	20.0%	2.2x	16.7x
Blackbaud, Inc.	4,600	1,060	112	10.6%	5.4%	4.3x	NM
Instructure	3,880	490	141	28.8%	23.8%	7.9x	27.5x
PowerSchool	3,760	640	109	17.0%	20.6%	5.9x	34.5x
Graham Holdings Company	3,100	4,040	516	12.8%	10.8%	0.8x	6.0x
John Wiley & Sons, Inc.	2,510	2,040	290	14.2%	3.3%	1.2x	8.7x
Adtalem Global Education Inc.	2,080	1,450	347	23.9%	11.2%	1.4x	6.0x
Stride, Inc.	1,790	1,810	212	11.7%	20.7%	1.0x	8.4x
Chegg, Inc.	1,700	752	100	13.3%	19.1%	2.3x	17.0x
2U, Inc.	1,170	948	77	8.1%	14.7%	1.2x	15.2x
Scholastic Corporation	1,140	1,690	115	6.8%	0.3%	0.7x	9.9x
Coursera Inc	1,140	551	(166)	NM	44.0%	2.1x	NM
Perdoceo Education Corporation	341	708	152	21.5%	3.1%	0.5x	2.2x
D2L, Inc.	274	126	(11)	NM	15.1%	2.2x	NM
Median	\$ 1,935	\$ 1,004	\$ 128	13.1%	14.9%	1.8x	9.9x

<sup>(1)</sup> Enterprise value as of June 28, 2023.

<sup>(2)</sup> EBITDA Margin <0% or EV/EBITDA multiples <0.0x or >40.0x are considered Not Meaningful ("NM")

<sup>(3)</sup> CAGR based on 2020-2023 TTM Revenue; Source: Pitchbook

## **Select Public Comps (Continued)**



#### **Corporate Training**

(\$ in millions)	Valuation Metrics (Per Latest LTM)									
Company	Enterpr	rise Value <sup>(1)</sup>	Reve	enue	EBI	TDA	Margin <sup>(2)</sup>	3-Year Rev CAGR (3)	EV/Rev	EV/EBITDA
Duolingo	\$	4,980	\$	404	\$	(57)	NM	75.9%	12.3x	NM
Learning Technologies Group		977		746		113	15.1%	64.3%	1.3x	8.7x
HealthStream		716		270		31	11.5%	2.6%	2.7x	23.1x
Franklin Covey		450		276		33	12.0%	5.7%	1.6x	13.6x
Median	\$	847	\$	340	\$	32	12.0%	35.0%	2.1x	13.6x

<sup>(1)</sup> Enterprise value as of June 28, 2023.

<sup>(2)</sup> EBITDA Margin <0% or EV/EBITDA multiples <0.0x or >40.0x are considered Not Meaningful ("NM")

<sup>(3)</sup> CAGR based on 2020-2023 TTM Revenue; Source: Pitchbook

## **Select Higher Ed M&A Transactions**



Announced Date	Acquirer	Target	Transaction Size (\$MM)	EV/Revenue
05/18/2023	<b>I</b> University₀∫ldaho	University of Phoenix	\$550	-
2/13/2023	<b>S</b> Sage	epigeum	-	-
1/19/2023	NOODLE™	<b>Hubble</b> Studios	-	-
9/28/20221	K1 INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT	осецот	\$117	-
9/26/2022		U Concourse	-	-
4/29/2022	Pearson	m@ndly languages	-	-
1/11/2022	<b>@</b> ellucian.	campuslogic empowering student financial succe		-
12/11/2021	<del>f</del> lywire	WPM EDUCATION	-	-
11/11/2021	ETS	<b>Xira Talent</b>	-	-
6/29/2021	20	ed <b>x</b>	\$800	9.4x

### **Select K-12 M&A Transactions**



Announced Date	Acquirer	Target	Transaction Size (\$MM)	EV/Revenue
4/25/2023*	RAPTOR	SchoolPass	CONF	CONF
4/10/2023	RENAISSANCE°	GL Education	-	-
3/2/2023	LEARNING"	Teachers Pay Teachers	-	-
2/9/2023	imagine learning	WINSOR	-	-
1/24/2023	Cordance.	Hapara	-	-
1/11/2023	HMH	nwea	CONF	CONF
12/15/2022	Serent	Link <mark>lt!</mark>	-	CONF
10/11/2022	KIRKBI / (EGO)	BrainPOP	\$875	-
8/30/2022	Roper TECHNOLOGIES	Frontline education	\$3,725	10.1x
8/24/2022	RENAISSANCE°	illuminate	CONF	CONF

## **Select K-12 M&A Transactions (Continued)**



Announced Date	Acquirer	Target	Transaction Size (\$MM)	EV/Revenue
5/20/2022	class Technologies Inc.	Blackboard collaborate.	\$210	-
2/22/2022	VERITAS CAPITAL	HMH	~\$2,800	2.3x
2/14/2022	ALPINE	WILSON LANGUAGE TRAINING®	CONF	-
1/6/2022*	LEARNERS <b>EDGE</b>	Insight EDUCATION GROUP	CONF	CONF
11/29/2021	Chegg®	<b>B</b> USUU	\$436	9.7x
6/4/2021*	${ m PSG} _{{ m growth}}^{ m providence}$	SchoolStatus	CONF	CONF
5/6/2021	Kahoot!	Clever	\$500	11.4x

## **Select Corporate Training M&A Transactions**



Announced Date	Acquirer	Target	Transaction Size (\$MM)	EV/Revenue
03/24/2023	PERDOCEO EDUCATION CORPORATION	T CODING DOJO	\$65	-
03/23/2023	? Pearson	by Pearson	\$190	-
11/21/2022	CULTURE PARTNERS	PARADIGM LEARNING	-	-
9/19/2022	V I S T A EQUITY PARTNERS	KnowBe4 Human error. Conquered.	\$4,600	14.8x
7/25/2022	PCF polarispartners	amplifire	-	-
6/13/2022	cornerstone	sumtotal	\$200	1.7x
3/17/2022	cornerstone	edcast	-	-
1/24/2022	Colibri	Select assets from  ADT LEM  GLOBAL EDUCATION	\$1,000	4.9x
12/22/2021	skillsoft <sup>▶</sup>	code cademy	\$525	9.7x
7/15/2021	learning learning technologies group	••• <b>GP</b> Strategies	\$379	0.8x

## **Sample VCP Education Transactions**



We have a proven track record of advising middle market technology-enabled companies globally

































Edtech transactions

## **VCP Snapshot**



#### FOCUSED APPROACH

Sample Coverage:

#### **Education & Training**









#### **B2B Software**







has received an

**PARTNERS** 

Curriculum Design

#### Strategic M&A & Capital Raising







Sandbox & Co

**FEN** 

Pearson

Funbrain

#### 40 Years

Combined M&A experience between principals

8.1x

Average EV / Revenue multiple for last five sell-side software M&A deals

20+

Transactions led by VCP professionals last five years

Vicksburg Capital Partners ("VCP") was founded to provide sophisticated, trusted advice and best-in-class transaction execution by dedicated, experienced principals to middle market technology businesses



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### **VCP Principals**



**Peter Yoon** 

Managing Director pyoon@vicksburgcp.com

Peter has 20 years of investment banking experience across a wide range of technology and technology-enabled verticals including the education, media, and healthcare services sectors. Prior to founding Vicksburg Capital Partners, Peter led the Education Group at Berkery Noyes, specializing in EdTech across the post-secondary, preK-12, childcare services and corporate training areas. He has advised technology companies on matters relating to mergers and acquisitions, financings and general business development. Peter has also structured, financed and executed transactions as an investor. He was formerly a banker in the Media, Communications and Technology investment banking group at the Bank of Montreal and the Media investment banking group at UBS. Peter also served in the US Army as an attack helicopter pilot. In addition, he holds a BS in Economics from the United States Military Academy and an MBA from the NYU Stern School of Business.

#### Sameer Pal

Managing Director spal@vicksburgcp.com

Sameer has over 16 years of M&A transaction experience across over \$1BN in closed deal volume. Previous roles include: lead M&A banker for SunTrust Robinson Humphrey's (n/k/a Truist) financial technology practice; senior banker at Berkery Noyes & Co., focusing on technology businesses across the education, HR, financial, and B2B sectors; co-lead of the merchant banking practice at Avondale Strategic Partners, making principal investments in and providing M&A advisory services to middle market companies; investment banker with Crowe Capital Markets, executing a wide range of sell-side, buy-side, divestiture, and capital raising transactions. Sameer holds a BS with High Distinction in Finance, Accounting, and Economics from the Kelley School of Business at Indiana University and an MBA from the NYU Stern School of Business.

#### **Disclosures**



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