

BRAD TAYLOR

Information Coordinator

920.492.2905 ext. 1017

E-mail: btaylor@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us



MEDIA RELEASE

For More Information, Contact:

Jill Rhude, Curriculum Director

Ashwaubenon School District

920-492-2905, ext.1019

jrhude@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us

Parkview Middle School Receives \$20,000 Project Lead The Way Grant

Ashwaubenon, WI – May 1, 2012 – Ashwaubenon’s Parkview Middle School is the recipient of a \$20,000 grant from Project Lead The Way (PLTW), the nation’s leading provider of Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) curriculum. Funds from the grant will support the implementation of the PLTW engineering curriculum, including the purchase of materials and equipment that will be used in the hands-on, project-based classes that are a distinguishing characteristic of PLTW’s curriculum.

Beginning with the 2012-13 school year, Parkview will offer PLTW’s Gateway to Technology (GTT) program, a program that engages the natural curiosity and imagination of middle school students, while introducing them to engineering, robotics, computer modeling, and energy. The curriculum is designed to give students a solid foundation for further STEM learning in high school and beyond.

According to Ashwaubenon Superintendent of Schools, Brian Hanes, Ph.D., “We are very excited to be awarded this grant as it will further extend our opportunity to inspire and expose students to the technology, engineering, science and math opportunities. This hands-on curriculum gives our students a relevant connection to future occupations in these areas. My congratulations and deep appreciation to teachers Dave Stroud, Phil Layden, Tom Barnhart and Curriculum Director Jill Rhude for their leadership and ambition to earn this grant.”

The PLTW grant application process is highly competitive for schools. To receive a grant, schools went through a rigorous application process, which included demonstrating that the school met specific requirements and eligibility criteria to be awarded grant funds. The requirements included district and community support, contractual agreements, teacher professional development, technology acquisitions, and many others.

“Project Lead The Way is committed to providing the highest quality STEM education to prepare today’s students for the global economy,” said PLTW President and CEO Vince Bertram. “We were pleased to receive so many quality grant applications, and we look forward to partnering with Parkview to prepare our nation’s next generation of innovators. Finally, we’d like to thank our generous industry partners who made this grant possible.”

PLTW provides students with a proven path to college and career success in STEM fields through three comprehensive programs: Gateway To Technology for middle school students and Pathway To Engineering and Biomedical Sciences for high school students. The hands-on, project-based curricula show students how what they are learning in math and science class applies to real-world challenges. Each course emphasizes problem-solving, critical thinking and teamwork – the top in-demand skills identified by business and industry leaders for success in the global economy.

For more information on Project Lead The Way, visit pltw.org or contact Jennifer Cahill, PLTW director of communications, at jcahill@pltw.org. For information regarding Ashwaubenon's grant award, contact Jill Rhude, Ashwaubenon School District Curriculum Director, at 920-492-2905 extension 1019 or jrhude@ashwaubenon.k12.wi.us.

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