School Board Executive Summary

Topic: Project Lead The Way

Date: November 2, 2026

Presented by: Mike Lucas

Recommended Action:

- [x] Information Only
- [ ] Presentation/Discussion
- [ ] Discussion/Action by Board of Education
- [ ] Presentation/Action Next Meeting

Recommendation: None at this time. Informational update.

Background: Westside Community Schools is extremely proud to partner with Project Lead the Way (PLTW). Project Lead the Way empowers students with in-demand knowledge, real-world skills, and the confidence to lead the way in the classroom, community, career, and beyond.

PLTW is a nationally-recognized PreK-12th grade program that engages students in hands-on, project-based learning in engineering, biomedical science, computer science, and more.

Project Lead the Way has great scholarship opportunities in many colleges and universities across the country. For many of these institutions, students who take PLTW courses in high school automatically qualify for scholarships.

A Westside senior student recently visited the Milwaukee School of Engineering and was told that, because he took a PLTW course, he automatically qualifies for $3,000 per year for four years.

The website below shows all the colleges and universities that offer PLTW incentives.

https://www.pltw.org/experience-pltw/student-opportunities

Attachment(s): Project Lead The Way infographic

WESTSIDE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS

PROJECT LEAD THE WAY

Building futures. One student at a time.

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) empowers students with in-demand knowledge, real-world skills, and the confidence to lead in the classroom, career, and beyond.

What is PLTW? A nationally recognized PK–12 program that engages students in **hands-on, project-based learning** in Engineering, Biomedical Science, Computer Science, and more.

HOW PLTW WORKS

01 Engaging curriculum
Students explore real-world challenges through projects.

02 Hands-on learning
Students design, build, test, and iterate just like professionals.

03 Teacher empowerment
PLTW provides training, resources, and ongoing support for educators.

04 Career connections
Students see the relevance of learning in today's world.

Real-world skills. Real-world impact.

- Problem solving
- Collaboration & communication
- Critical thinking
- Technology literacy
- Adaptability & resilience

Courses that inspire

- Engineering Design & Development
- Principles of Engineering
- Computer Science Essentials
- Biomedical Science
- Digital Electronics, and more

HOW PLTW BUILDS CAREER READINESS

Early exposure to careers
Students explore high-demand fields and discover their passions.

Industry-recognized credentials
PLTW pathways align with industry certifications and college credit opportunities.

College & career ready
Students graduate with the skills, experience, and confidence to succeed after high school.

Stronger workforce pipeline
Prepares students for the jobs of today and the innovations of tomorrow.





Preparing today's students to lead tomorrow's world.

PLTW helps Westside students dream bigger, do more, and become the innovators, problem-solvers, and leaders our community — and the world — needs.

Trusted nationwide
Used in more than 12,000 schools across the U.S.

Proven results
PLTW students are more likely to pursue college and careers in STEM.

Strong return
Investing in PLTW strengthens our students, schools, and community.

Better together
PLTW connects classroom learning to real-world opportunities.