



For Immediate Release

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**Gull Lake Middle School Receives National Recognition for
Commitment to Empowering Students**

Named a distinguished school for STEM and career learning program

Richland, MI – Gull Lake Middle School (GLMS) announced today that it has been recognized as a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished School for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities for students through PLTW Gateway. It is one of just 176 middle schools across the U.S. to receive this honor. [PLTW](#) is a nonprofit organization that serves millions of PreK-12 students and teachers in over 12,200 schools across the U.S.

“PLTW has provided a structured platform for Gull Lake Middle School staff to launch from. The courses students take have assisted them in thinking about their learning in the context of solving real-world problems and how their work can impact others. Continuous exposure to this level of thinking and learning builds empathy and soft skills alongside the academic skills we want students to be equipped with. Our mission is to *Grow Learners and Become Leaders*. The PLTW courses fit our mission in a unique way providing a well-rounded experience for our students.” - Dr. Carmen Maring, GLMS Principal

The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. To be eligible for the designation, Gull Lake Middle School had to meet the following criteria:

- Offer at least one PLTW Gateway unit at each grade level;
- Have more than 50 percent of the student body participating during the 2018-19 school year;
- Have strategies and supports in place that support reasonably proportional representation with regard to race, ethnicity, poverty, gender and can support such claims with relevant data.

Through PLTW programs, students develop STEM knowledge as well as in-demand, transportable skills that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives, on any career path they take. PLTW Gateway empowers students to lead their own discovery and uncover a range of paths and possibilities they can look forward to in high school and beyond.

“It is a great honor to recognize Gull Lake Middle School for their commitment to providing students with an excellent educational experience,” said Dr. Vince Bertram, President and CEO of PLTW. “They should be very proud of their work to ensure students have the knowledge and skills to be career ready and successful on any career path they choose.”

Gull Lake Middle School is part of a community of PreK-12 schools, colleges and universities, and corporate and philanthropic partners across the country united around a passion for providing students with inspiring, engaging, and empowering learning opportunities. For more information about PLTW’s recognition program, visit pltw.org/our-programs/program-recognition. engaging, and empowering learning opportunities. For more information about PLTW’s recognition program, visit pltw.org/our-programs/program-recognition.

Empowering students to thrive in an evolving world.

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GLMS students test a skimmer car, the product of a lesson on measuring and reading dimensions.



GLMS students carefully disassemble a puzzle cube so that they can draft a key for solving.



A group of GLMS students build a prototype of an Ankle Foot Orthosis for a student with cerebral palsy.

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