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**Project Lead The Way Thriving in (City/County);  
(Number) Students at (School Name) Improving in Science and Technology**

(Sept. 1, 2010) – Project Lead The Way (PLTW) courses are being taught to more than 30,000 Wisconsin students this fall thanks to enthusiastic students and parents, dedicated teachers and administrators, and financial support from school boards, industry and the state. An innovative middle and high school curriculum that blends science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), PLTW curriculum is available in 250 Wisconsin schools, the fourth-largest total in the nation.

Locally, the program has been offered at (School Name) since (Year). Currently (Number) students are enrolled in the program.

*<Please insert a statement regarding the success and growth of PLTW at your school here. Perhaps add a story about student test scores or increased college enrollment, a community partner, or teachers working together in STEM would be appropriate.>*

**PLTW meeting a need at state and national levels**

Experience in STEM fields is vital to students as they enter college and the workforce. With more than half of the engineers and scientists in the United States nearing retirement, technical industries are in desperate need of workers to fill the positions responsible for innovation and economic growth. According to U.S. government data, job openings requiring expertise in STEM will increase by 18.3 percent through 2014.

Thirty-nine Wisconsin counties feature PLTW curriculum. Current student enrollment is twice the number who participated in 2007. Business and state education leaders plan to continue expanding the program in coming years, as enrollment since the program's start in 1999 has steadily increased due to the collaborative efforts of schools, public and private organizations and the business community.

The Wisconsin State Legislature approved state funding in its most-recent budget. The program's growth can also be traced in part to the support provided by the state's colleges and universities. The University of Wisconsin (UW) System allows students who complete certain PLTW high school classes to earn advanced standing credit at UW System schools. Additionally, program credit and/or scholarships are available through Marquette University, the Milwaukee School of Engineering and many of the UW System and Wisconsin Technical College System campuses.

## About Project Lead The Way

Created in response to the expected 15 million engineer and technical worker shortage (according to U.S. Government estimates) in the U.S. by the year 2015, PLTW helps students apply academic engineering and technology concepts in compelling, real-world ways. The program has established partnerships with schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia.

General information about PLTW can be found at [www.pltw.org](http://www.pltw.org), while state-specific information is located at [www.pltwi.org](http://www.pltwi.org). At these websites, school leaders interested in initiating PLTW at their schools may learn more about the program. Additional information may be obtained by contacting Affiliate Director Joshua Schultz at [schultzj@msoe.edu](mailto:schultzj@msoe.edu) or 414-277-7254.

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Editors Note: To arrange an interview with national state or local PLTW leaders, or receive photos of students participating in PLTW activities, contact Chad Ritterbusch or Marc Whitney at 262.786.5970.