

Dear Gifford Middle School Families,

It is with great excitement that I announce the partnership of Gifford Middle School and Beachland Elementary in adopting Project Lead the Way, a nationally recognized STEM (Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics) program ([www.pltw.org](http://www.pltw.org))

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is the nation's leading provider of K-12 STEM programs. The world-class curriculum and high-quality teacher professional development model, combined with an engaged network of educators and corporate and community partners, help students develop the skills necessary to succeed in our global economy.

As a 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, we deliver PLTW programs to more than 6,500 elementary, middle, and high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia. PLTW schools can be found in rural, urban, and suburban districts; across all income levels; as well as in public, private, and charter schools.

PLTW's success in preparing students with the knowledge and skills they need to succeed has been recognized by colleges and universities, Fortune 500 businesses, and numerous national organizations including Change the Equation, the Social Impact Exchange, and more.

Gifford Middle School students will begin Project Lead the Way "Gateway" in 6<sup>th</sup> grade Advanced/Gifted Science class during the 2015-16 school year. Academically, students who are proficient in reading and have an academic focus will be more successful in PLTW. ***Additional requirements for students will be a commitment to volunteer five hours in their community per year. Parents will be asked to commit their time to support Gifford Middle School by completing 10 hours of volunteering throughout the school year as well.*** In order to help us better prepare for implementation of this program, we are asking you to let us know if your child/children will be attending Gifford Middle School and if you are interested in the Project Lead the Way program. Please complete the form below and return to Gifford Middle School attention Mrs. Ferraro.

Sincerely,

Principal, Gifford Middle School

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\_\_\_\_ Yes, my child \_\_\_\_\_ would like to be in Project Lead the Way during the 2015/2016 school year.

\_\_\_\_ No, my child \_\_\_\_\_ will not be attending Gifford Middle for the 2015/2016 school year.

Parent \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

