



Kenton County School District | *It's about ALL kids.*

**THE KENTON COUNTY BOARD OF  
EDUCATION**

1055 EATON DRIVE, FORT WRIGHT, KENTUCKY  
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Dr. Henry Webb, Superintendent of Schools

**KCSD ISSUE PAPER**

**DATE:**

5/29/18

**AGENDA ITEM (ACTION ITEM):**

Project Lead The Way Launch Grant for K- 5 STEM

**APPLICABLE BOARD POLICY:**

04.61 Gifts and Grants

**HISTORY/BACKGROUND:**

The Kenton County School System is applying for Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Launch Grant. PLTW Launch is curriculum for STEM education for K-5. This grant, will consist of equipment, participation fee, and raining for two elementary teachers, services and resources that will be used to offset the eligible PLTW program implementation costs associated with PLTW Launch.

**FISCAL/BUDGETARY IMPACT:**

The PLTW Launch grant is \$4,750 for one year and is not a matching grant. It is unknown if we will be able to reapply once the grant period ends.

**RECOMMENDATION:**

**It is recommended that we accept the PLTW Launch Grant if awarded to KCSD.**

**CONTACT PERSON:**

**Francis O'Hara**

*Principal*

*Director*

*Superintendent*

*Use this form to submit your request to the Superintendent for items to be added to the Board Meeting Agenda.*

*Principal –complete, print, sign and send to your Director. Director –if approved, sign and put in the Superintendent's mailbox.*

**Kenton County Board of Education**

Board Members: Carl Wicklund, Chairperson Karen L. Collins, Vice Chairperson Joshua Crabtree, Esq. Carla Egan Jessica Jehn  
"The Kenton County Board of Education provides *Equal Education & Employment Opportunities.*"

**Eligibility Requirements:**

**PLTW Program:** PLTW Launch

**Program Requirements:** Grantees must begin offering PLTW Launch modules of the school's choosing in the 2018-2019 academic year.

**School Type:** Public

**Geographic Area:** Schools must be located in the state of Kentucky.

**Other:** This grant, which will consist of equipment, services and resources made available to the Grantee, to be determined at the discretion of PLTW and the Kentucky Department of Workforce Investment, will be used to offset the eligible PLTW program implementation costs associated with PLTW Launch.

PLTW will directly apply grant funding for the approved products and services. Grant funds will not be sent directly to schools; instead, PLTW will send the following grant funded equipment and acknowledgements for the following program implementation costs:

- PLTW Launch program participation fee for the 2018-2019 school year;
- Teacher training fees for up to two teachers to complete PLTW Launch Classroom Teacher Training; and
- PLTW Launch Module/Grade Level Kits valuing up to \$3,000. Schools may choose which module(s) to implement.

**Grant Award and Distribution Schedule:**

**Total Award:** \$4,750

- 2018-2019: \$4,750
- Grant funded equipment and expenditure acknowledgements will be sent to schools

**Use of Funds****Grant Reporting Requirements:**

Grantees receiving a PLTW grant are required to submit the following reports annually on April 15 for the duration of the grant period: Annual Grant Report and the Annual Grant Financial Report.

**PLTW GRANT: LAUNCH  
PINER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

As shown previously in pages, the goal is to have a continuous flow for K-12 scholars to be prepared for the STEM careers after high school graduation.

PLTW established a K-5 program called Launch:

The Launch program has 3 curriculum trainings and grade level specialized trainings:

1. PLTW: The Experience\*
2. Getting Started with PLTW Launch Lead Teacher Training\*
3. Core Training: PLTW Launch Lead Teacher\*
4. Specialized Course: Aligned to Kindergarten Standards
5. Specialized Course: Aligned to First Grade Standards
6. Specialized Course: Aligned to Second Grade Standards
7. Specialized Course: Aligned to Third Grade Standards
8. Specialized Course: Aligned to Fourth Grade Standards
9. Specialized Course: Aligned to Fifth Grade Standards

**The Structure Proposal for the PLTW Elementary Launch Program:**

Each of the 24 interdisciplinary modules in the PLTW Launch curriculum empowers the scholars to adopt a design-thinking mindset. In addition, the courses allow a flow from K through 5<sup>th</sup> grade that prepares them for their middle school PLTW GTT Program. Presently, each elementary school does not have a teacher trained in PLTW Launch. The PLTW Launch Grant will be the start to have STEM in the K-12 level. The goal is to establish PLTW Launch in all 11 of our elementary schools. Each elementary school teacher will complete three courses with an \* in the summer of 2019. The specialty courses will follow in the summers of 2020 and 2021.

**Piner Elementary School will be the one school targeted to establish PLTW Launch in the summer of 2018. The PLTW Launch Grant will provide the needed cost for Launch course registration fees, travel cost, and teacher training for one teacher.**

**The result will be a successful flow from K through 12<sup>th</sup> grade for scholars to have the needed skills, knowledge, and certifications to enter the workforce, college/university, or both.**

**Additional Grant funding, Perkins Funds, Business & Industry financial support, KDE FUNDS and district funds will be needed to establish the K-12 STEM structure.**

***Please note: Mrs. Christi Jefferds wrote the PLTW Launch Grant for Piner Elementary School. She is currently the principal of Piner until June 30, 2018. On July 1, 2018 she will be the principal of Woodland Middle School. In addition, I, Francis O'Hara, will be overseeing the STEM K-12 initiative for the Kenton County School District.***

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## PINER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL - Review Grant Application

PLTW Launch (K-5)

### Personal Information

|       |                                      |
|-------|--------------------------------------|
| Name  | Christi Jefferds                     |
| Email | christi.jefferds@kenton.kyschools.us |
| Phone | 859-356-2155                         |

### Grant Contacts

#### Primary Contact

|  |                                      |
|--|--------------------------------------|
| Name   | Christi Jefferds                     |
| Email  | christi.jefferds@kenton.kyschools.us |
| Which of the following roles best describes you? | Principal/Asst. Principal            |
| Phone  | 859-356-2155                         |

#### Secondary Contact

|  |                                 |
|--|---------------------------------|
| Name   | Kelly Smith                     |
| Email  | kelly.smith@kenton.kyschools.us |
| Which of the following roles best describes you? | Principal/Asst. Principal       |
| Phone  | 859-356-2155                    |

### How did you hear about the PLTW grant program?

Colleague in my school or district

### What best describes your type of organization?

Public School(Traditional or Charter)

### District Information

|         |               |
|---------|---------------|
| Name    | KENTON COUNTY |
| Address | 1055 EATON DR |



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|       |       |
|-------|-------|
| State | KY    |
| Zip   | 41017 |

### School Information

|                 |                         |
|-----------------|-------------------------|
| Name            | PINER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL |
| Address         | 2845 PINER RIDGE RD     |
| Address (cont.) |                         |
| City            | MORNING VIEW            |
| State           | KY                      |
| Zip             | 41063                   |

### Additional Information

PLTW Launch (K-5)

Do you currently offer this program to students at your school?

Yes

Which units is your school interested in implementing ?

PLTW Launch Grade 1,PLTW Launch Grade 2,PLTW Launch Grade 3,PLTW Launch Grade 4,PLTW Launch Grade 5,PLTW Launch Kindergarten

### Student enrollment information for your organization

|                          |     |
|--------------------------|-----|
| Total Student Enrollment | 360 |
|--------------------------|-----|

#### Student Enrollment by Ethnicity

|                         |     |
|-------------------------|-----|
| American Indian/Alaskan | 0   |
| Asian/Pacific Islander  | 1   |
| Black/African American  | 1   |
| Hispanic/Latino         | 11  |
| White/Caucasian         | 343 |
| Two or more races       | 4   |

#### Student Enrollment by free/reduced price meals

|                              |     |
|------------------------------|-----|
| Reduced-price Lunch Eligible | 22  |
| Free Lunch Eligible          | 154 |

Which of the following individuals have been involved in discussions regarding implementing and supporting

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Principal;Program/Curriculum Coordinator;School  
Board;Superintendent or Assistant  
Superintendent;Teachers

**Please share how your school has prepared to implement or expand your PLTW programs next school year**

Engaged community and/or business stakeholders for support

false

Estimated program investment using the PLTW Investment Tool

true

Consulted with IT staff regarding technology requirements

true

Gathered input from administrators and/or teachers with previous PLTW experience

true

Determined how to schedule PLTW during the school day

true

Identified potential PLTW teacher(s)

true

Attended a PLTW event or conference

false

Connected with another PLTW district or school

true

**Referencing the individuals and activities you selected above as a guide, provide a narrative of the involvement and support of those individuals during your school's planning activities for PLTW next year.\***

Referencing the Individuals and activities you selected above as a guide, provide a narrative of the involvement and support of those individuals during your school's planning activities for PLTW next year.\*

Two of our district middle schools implement PLTW, and we have discussed with them how they incorporate the program into the school day effectively. We will continue to collaborate with their PLTW teachers to ensure vertical alignment between the elementary PLTW Launch instruction and that at the middle school. We will work with the District Instructional Technology Consultant to provide support and guidance and to consider different models for implementation. The PLTW teacher will collaborate with grade level teachers to integrate PLTW Launch lessons into their science scope and sequence. We will involve parents by sharing the students' success at a parent STEM Showcase night.

Describe the current role of the individual(s) who will teach PLTW next year and why they were selected. If you have not selected a PLTW teacher(s), describe the plan for selecting them and what qualities you will seek in a candidate.

Our Library Media Specialist, who is also our Technology Resource Teacher and STEM teacher, was selected to be our PLTW teacher. She collaborates with classroom teachers to incorporate STEM lessons congruent with the NGSS standards for their grade levels to support classroom instruction. She teaches coding and robotics in our

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**In what grade levels are you interested in making PLTW courses available to students?\***

|              |       |
|--------------|-------|
| Pre-K        | false |
| Kindergarten | false |
| 1st Grade    | true  |
| 2nd Grade    | true  |
| 3rd Grade    | true  |
| 4th Grade    | true  |
| 5th Grade    | true  |
| 6th Grade    | false |
| 7th Grade    | false |
| 8th Grade    | false |
| 9th Grade    | false |
| 10th Grade   | false |
| 11th Grade   | false |
| 12th Grade   | false |

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What is your plan for scheduling this PLTW program into the school day next year?

Each class in grades 1-5 will have one weekly STEM class with our PLTW teacher during which they will complete PLTW Launch lessons. These lessons may be completed in the regular classroom as well, offering the STEM teacher and regular classroom teacher the opportunity to collaborate and team teach.

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**We believe all students benefit from access to PLTW programs. If awarded a PLTW grant, your school has the flexibility to implement in the way that best meets the needs of your students and school and aligns with grant requirements.**

Will all students be required to take at least one course at some point during their years enrolled at your school?

Yes

Please describe in detail your school's plan to drive student enrollment in PLTW programs

Describe how you will engage traditionally underrepresented populations.

Our school is a Title I school wide school. Our student Free and Reduced Lunch rate is 53%, and our population of students with disabilities is 17%. 50% of our students are female. All students will participate in PLTW Launch classes; the collaborative nature of the lessons as well as the hands on, inquiry-based, problem solving approach will engage all students, as they have already demonstrated in our existing STEM and Coding classes. We expect all of our students to excel in science and math, girls as well as boys, and regardless of their socioeconomic status. These high expectations for all fosters an environment in which no groups are left out.

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Will students or their families pay a fee to participate in PLTW programs?

No

**Please share your vision for PLTW programs in your school, including course offerings, student and teacher engagement, community involvement and the overall impact you expect the programs to have. Please be specific.**

Please share your vision for PLTW programs in your school, including course offerings, student and teacher engagement, community involvement and the overall impact you expect the programs to have. Please be specific.

Due to the small, rural nature of our school, the high poverty level of our students, and the lack of community resources readily available to them, being able to provide rigorous opportunities in the area of STEM is of utmost importance in preparing our students for the 21st century global economy. We expect that by incorporating PLTW, our students will develop the future-ready traits of persistence, problem solving, collaboration, creativity, and communication. It will provide them with a powerful vehicle in which to apply the academic skills they are learning in the classroom. Participation in PLTW will foster interest in STEM courses as they proceed through middle and high school, and will foster conditions for success in college and career training as they pursue futures in STEM-related fields. We intend to involve scholars from our district Academies of Innovation to serve as mentors, particularly the Girls in Engineering program, to provide positive role models for our students. To start our PLTW Launch program, we plan to incorporate one module at each grade level K-5, provided this falls within the limits of the grant. As we develop proficiency with the program, we will plan to add more modules in the future. We will seek funding from our business partnerships to assist in this effort.

How do you plan to financially support your PLTW program after the grant period ends?

Each year during the budgeting phase, we identify school priorities and set aside funds to sustain them. PLTW Launch will become such a priority, and funds will be allocated specifically to support the program. We plan to have the same teacher teach the program each year, which will minimize the training costs.

How important is the grant you are requesting from PLTW to your team?

Critical

#### **Additional Information**

Please feel free to include any additional information regarding your school or its plan for implementing PLTW programs including special initiatives, community & partnerships, implementation plans, etc.

Piner Elementary has worked hard to provide STEM instruction to our students by offering Coding, Robotics, a weekly STEM class, and a summer STEAM academy. We have created materials and curricula with minimal training, just a great deal of initiative and effort. Being able to implement the PLTW Launch program would be a monumental step forward for our school community. No other elementary schools in our district have implemented the program, and we would love to be the one to lead the way!



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