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Project Lead The Way Experiences Historic, Unprecedented Growth

School and program registrations reach highest level in 15 years

INDIANAPOLIS- Project Lead The Way has released the official 2012-13 school year registration numbers. The data show a nearly 20-percent increase in the number of schools offering Project Lead The Way courses to America's students, further re-affirming that Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is America's largest and leading provider of science, technology, engineering, and mathematics (STEM) education curricular programs for middle and high school students.

For the 2012-13 school year, PLTW added an additional 1,004 new programs and 747 new schools. **These new schools and programs bring the total number of PLTW programs to 5,211; the total number of middle and high schools offering PLTW to their students is now 4,782.** These numbers are higher than any experienced in PLTW's history.

Programs refer to PLTW's three middle and high school curricular offerings: the high school engineering curriculum, Pathway To Engineering (PTE); the high school Biomedical Sciences (BMS) program; and the middle school STEM curriculum, Gateway To Technology (GTT).

"The growth that Project Lead The Way is experiencing is outstanding, yet it's not surprising," said President and CEO Vince Bertram. "America is facing a crisis. Education must prepare students for the global economy by equipping them with the knowledge and skills they need to meet the projected job growth in STEM-related fields. Project Lead The Way is the solution to this problem, and it works. We commend school and district leaders for making the choice to implement Project Lead The Way in their schools."

For more information on Project Lead The Way, including inquiries related to starting a PLTW program in your school or district, visit <u>www.pltw.org</u> or call (877) 335-PLTW (7589).

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About PLTW

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is the leading provider of rigorous and innovative STEM (science, technology, engineering and math) education curricular programs used in schools. As a 501(c)(3) charitable organization, PLTW exists to prepare students for the global economy through its worldclass curriculum, high quality professional development, and an engaged network of educators, students, universities and professionals. PLTW's comprehensive curriculum has been collaboratively designed by PLTW teachers, university educators, engineering and biomedical professionals, and school administrators to promote critical thinking, creativity, innovation and real-world problem solving skills in students. The hands-on, project-based program engages students on multiple levels, exposes them to areas of study that they typically do not pursue, and provides them with a foundation and proven path to college and career success. More than 4,700 schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia are currently offering PLTW courses to their students. For more information, visit www.pltw.org.

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