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North Middlesex Regional School District Receives Grant to Support STEM Career Learning

PLTW's programs provide hands-on, project-based learning and in-depth teacher professional development

Townsend, Mass. February 6, 2020 – The North Middlesex Regional School District announced today that it has received grant funds from the One8 Foundation and the Baker-Polito Administration to offer both new and expanded curricular programs from [Project Lead The Way](#) (PLTW) that will better prepare students for career success. North Middlesex received funding for elementary, middle and high school programming through five different competitive grants. PLTW is a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for PreK-12 students and teachers through pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. North Middlesex joins more than 12,200 schools across the country offering PLTW programs to millions of students.

“These five grants awarded allow our students to begin working with a computer science and engineering curriculum starting in kindergarten and expanding the pathway through high school. It is a remarkable opportunity for students to engage with and excite them in possible careers in the future,” said Nancy Milligan, Assistant Superintendent of Schools,

The five schools in the district awarded the grant are one of the 82 schools across the commonwealth to receive the grant, which is supported by the Administration of Massachusetts Gov. Charlie Baker and Lt. Gov. Karyn Polito, the One8 Foundation, and Mass STEM Hub.

“Our administration is committed to closing the opportunity and achievement gaps in STEM fields for students across the Commonwealth,” **said Lt. Governor Karyn Polito.** “Partnerships with organizations like Project Lead the Way allow us to provide children with opportunities to learn hands-on, real-world STEM skills and put them on a pathway to success in the classroom and beyond.”

North Middlesex will use grant funds – to start elementary programming and strengthen its secondary PLTW programs with PLTW Launch (K-5), Gateway (Grade 6-8), Computer Science, Biomedical Science, and Engineering. Funds from the grant will also support teacher professional development and the purchase of materials and equipment that will be used in the hands-on applied learning courses.

“We are proud to partner with North Middlesex to empower students to develop the in-demand knowledge and transportable skills to thrive in our evolving world,” said Vince Bertram, PLTW President and CEO. “Thank you to the Governor’s Office, the One8 Foundation, and Mass STEM Hub for making these grants possible and further investing in Massachusetts’s students.”

“We are thrilled to support educators across the Commonwealth to bring applied learning and STEM education to their schools in a way that has students learning rigorous STEM content and then applying it to solve real-world problems,” **said Joanna Jacobson, President of the One8 Foundation.**

About PLTW

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a mission-driven organization that is transforming the learning experience for millions of PreK-12 students and thousands of teachers across the U.S. PLTW empowers students to develop in-demand, transportable knowledge and skills through pathways in computer science, engineering, and biomedical science. PLTW’s teacher training and resources support teachers as they engage their students in real-world learning. Approximately 12,200 elementary, middle, and high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia offer PLTW programs. For more information on Project Lead The Way, visit pltw.org.

About One8 Foundation and Mass STEM Hub

The One8 Foundation propels and supports outstanding leaders with compelling ideas that deliver scaled, sustainable social impact. Education is one of the One8 Foundation’s strategic giving areas, with a focus on preparing students for a rapidly changing high-tech world through applied learning and STEM education. Mass STEM Hub is a program of the One8 Foundation and its mission is to provide schools with access to and support for applied learning and STEM education that builds knowledge and skills students need to succeed in a rapidly changing, high tech world. One8 Foundation and Mass STEM Hub have helped scale Project Lead The Way’s K-12 curriculum in engineering, computer science, and biomedical science to over 45,000 students in Massachusetts enabling students to learn how to take theory to practice with real-world problem-solving. To learn more, visit one8.org and mass-stemhub.org.