

Dear Families,

Welcome to 8th Grade *Project Lead the Way*! I'm excited to begin a productive and engaging school year with your student in our PLTW Lab.

Project Lead the Way (PLTW) is about more than just learning facts, it's about developing a builder's mindset. Our students will be challenged to think critically, collaborate effectively, and persevere through challenges. In this lab, we embrace the idea of failing forward. Through hands-on experiences like designing playground equipment or deploying robots to solve real-world problems, students learn that mistakes aren't setbacks, they are essential data points in the engineering process. This approach prepares them with the 21st-century resilience and creativity needed for future success in any field.

Curriculum Overview

- 12 weeks Science (Chemistry, Diversity of Living Things, Geological Processes & History, Earth & Human Activity)
- 12 weeks PLTW (Design & Modeling, Automation & Robotics, Energy & Environment)
- 12 weeks Computer Science (Game Design, Neuromaker, Graphic Arts)

Homework Policy

Assignments are graded daily and posted on both Infinite Campus and Google Classroom. Students will be assessed through assignments, quizzes, projects, and presentations. All work and due dates will be clearly listed in Google Classroom.

Assignments are graded according to how well students demonstrate understanding or mastery of the grade-level standards. This understanding or mastery is scored on the following 4-point scale:

Advanced	=	4
Proficient	=	3
Basic	=	2
Minimal	=	1

Scores of **3** and **4** indicate that the student is meeting or exceeding the state standard. Scores of **1** or **2** suggest the need for additional instruction and support. Students may have multiple opportunities to demonstrate mastery of a standard throughout the year.

My particular style of teaching is based on three things: setting high expectations for EVERY student, showing respect for all students and expecting respect in return, and last, but certainly not least, parental involvement. It is my belief that when parents and teachers work together, a student can accomplish anything.

To promote a positive learning environment, I follow the district's **PBIS plan** and the **Student Code of Conduct** (see student agenda) with clearly defined expectations. Our classroom community will work as a team to reach our academic goals.

The best way to reach me is by email at floydjp@milwaukee.k12.wi.us or by text via **Google Voice at (414) 436-0832**. Please don't hesitate to reach out with any questions or concerns. I look forward to working with you to ensure a successful and rewarding year for your student.

Sincerely,

Jason Floyd