Project Lead The Way Program Updates

1. **Launch professional development** has improved to include a more robust Classroom Teacher Training and Lead Teacher Training. Classroom teachers will need to attend training and teach at least one module prior to attending Lead Teacher Training.

   - All Launch Lead Teachers **credentialed before June 1, 2017** are required to take part in an online update training. This online training provides all the tools and support they need to train and prepare other teachers to facilitate PLTW Launch in the classrooms.
   - The PLTW Building Level Readiness Training – the resource that Launch Lead Teachers formerly used to train other teachers - is no longer available and has been replaced with the new **PLTW Launch Classroom Teacher Training (16 hours of PD)**.
   - Questions regarding your district implementation? Ask Andrea!

2. **Computer Science Pathway updates**: Introduction to Computer Science (ICS) is being retired and will be supported until summer 2018. Cyber security will be available in Fall 2018.

   - Gateway ICS: App Creators and CS for Innovators and Makers
     - App Creators and CS for Innovators and Makers each have a 5 day core training.
   - High School ICS: Computer Science Essentials (CSE)
     - Computer Science Essentials is in BETA in 2017-2018. In-person core training will begin in summer 2018.

3. **Increased flexibility**: Schools are no longer required to offer foundation courses within pathways, including gateway. There is a highly recommended pathway for implementation. Schools can develop the best implementation plan based on local needs.

4. High school campus participation fees are **capped at $5,000**. (i.e. a school that offers engineering plus another high school program can offer the third program without an additional participation fee).

5. **Twenty of the twenty-four Launch modules** can now be taught using Android devices instead of iPads. All 24 modules can be taught with iPads. Chromebooks are not supported.

6. **myPLTW - Central point of access**

   - **New Intuitive Design** – Overhauled the design of myPLTW to provide a more intuitive experience.
   - **Streamlined Roles** – Reduced the number of myPLTW roles to four (Program Coordinator, Site Coordinator, Teacher, and General User) to simplify user management. Two Program Coordinators per account (district) and 1-2 Site Coordinator per site (campuses).
   - **Account Management** – Program and Site Coordinators are now allowed to add or remove users, programs, and sites from an account or site.
     - **myPLTW Store** – Added an online guided experience that allows any user to create equipment and supply lists with investment estimates, pay invoices, view PLTW order status, and purchase select PLTW equipment and supplies online. Resources to support your program growth (e.g. clothing, banners, etc.)
7. myPLTW Content Delivery Tool (Courses)
   - Courses, Project Lead The Way’s new curriculum delivery tool within myPLTW, delivers PLTW curriculum in a new, engaging way that enables teachers to make the content come to life for their students. It’s simple to use, saves time in the day, and provides access to curriculum updates on a real-time basis.
   - Courses is not a new Learning Management System; it’s an entirely new way to access the PLTW curriculum.
   - Courses replaces the myPLTW LMS (Canvas). Teachers who have used the LMS in the past may continue to do so until Sept. 30 to retrieve or export any materials or resources they wish to save for future use or reference. After Sept. 30, teachers will no longer have access to the LMS.

8. myPLTW Community:
   - To access Community, log in to myPLTW and click on the Community icon located on the homepage app menu.
   - Community features a number of exciting enhancements for users to network and stay engaged, including the ability to ask questions and comment, like, and bookmark posts. Additionally, teachers can share files and follow peers to stay connected and share insights, advice, and best practices.

9. PLTW has retired the Certification process and created a Campus Recognition program that is based on student access and engagement (https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/program-recognition).
   - Programs are not required to complete a self-assessment nor arrange and pay for a certification visit.
   - Counselors and administrators are encouraged to attend a PLTW state conference.
   *Recommend that new administrators, counselors, and teachers attend the KS PLTW Conference.

10. The College Board and PLTW have created AP + PLTW recognition program for engineering, computer science, and biomedical science students. (https://www.pltw.org/our-programs/ap-pltw).


12. We want to hear about the great things going on in your PLTW classroom/school! Please submit a blog post about what’s happening at your school and reference any link news articles in the blog post if you want. You can use the form available here to submit your story: https://www.pltw.org/share-your-story.

13. Join PLTW at the national Summit on October 22-25th in Orlando, FL. This is an opportunity for teachers, counselors and administrators to connect with the national PLTW network and attend over 250 professional development sessions. Registration is open at www.pltw.org/SUMMIT.

14. Need help?
   - myPLTW Help Icon
   - General FAQ: https://www.pltw.org/faq-back-to-school
   - Solution Center: 1-877-335-7589 or solutioncenter@pltw.org

Andrea Holzwarth
Director of School Engagement, Kansas/Missouri
Project Lead The Way
mobile: 785.332.0293 | email: aholzwarth@pltw.org
@andreaholzwarth
www.pltw.org