



News Update
Illinois Project Lead the Way
March, 2006

2006 Summer Training Institute Online Registration Opens April 1

-Visit <http://www.pltw.org/cgi-bin/trainsignup.asp> after April 1 to enroll online for STI 2006 training.

-REMINDER: in order to register for summer sessions teachers must FIRST be registered under their school's record at www.pltw.org/teachreg.shtml (and the school must have a signed PLTW agreement on file). Please be sure new teachers get registered right away on this site to speed up the STI course registration in April.

-Illinois will offer three summer training sessions in 2006:

-Digital Electronics, July 9-21, UIUC

-Introduction to Engineering July 23-August 4, UIUC

-Principles of Engineering July 23-August 4, UI Chicago

-Watch the Illinois PLTW STI website for updates and details at

www.pltw.illinois.edu/Summer_Institutes.htm or contact Illinois Affiliate Director Brenda Pacey for assistance with advance planning for attending out of state summer offerings in GTT, CEA, CIM, EDD, Biotech.

Illinois Teachers Invited to April 22, 2006 "Success Stories and Teacher Tips" Sessions in Chicago and Champaign-Urbana

When: Saturday, April 22, 2006; 9:30 am Coffee, 10 am-12:30 Informal Workshop

Where: Offered at two locations: University of Illinois at Chicago, or University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

Join other Illinois PLTW teachers for a morning of:

- sharing success stories and sample curriculum activities;
- identifying topics for future continuing professional development workshop topics or problem-solving assistance activities to support your PLTW teaching;
- providing input for development of an Illinois PLTW teacher listserv and for content to add to a "curriculum best practices and suggested resources" section on the Illinois PLTW website;
- networking with other Illinois PTLW teachers and University faculty/staff (we'll connect the two groups via interactive videoconferencing for part of the morning to share ideas).

There's no fee to attend (and teachers will earn 2.5 CPDU credit), but to help us with planning, please register your intent to attend at <http://www.pltw.illinois.edu/conference.htm> before April 13th. You will receive email confirmation and driving/parking and other details prior to the event.

Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity Grants Support New BioTech Curriculum Opportunities for Illinois PLTW Schools

-The Illinois Governor's Office and the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO) is reviewing applications from current Illinois PLTW schools for grant funding to support participation in the new PLTW BioTech curriculum. Also, DCEO is reviewing applications to help several new school communities with startup costs to join PLTW.

-For further information, contact John Barr (jbarr@ildceo.net or 312/814-2259).

New Illinois PLTW Schools

-In 2005-06, approximately *20 schools* and cooperative career centers are offering PLTW courses.

-Another *15-20 schools* are planning to start courses in the 2006-07 school year, having signed agreements or being in the process of applying before the spring 2006 deadlines.

-And an additional *15 or more schools*, districts, or community college/cooperative career centers are seriously considering joining the PLTW network in the coming year.

Watch the Illinois and national PLTW websites for updated school listings.

If you or a neighboring school need PLTW brochures or other promotional materials, visit <http://www.pltw.org/inforeq.shtml> to make an online order, or contact Affiliate Director Brenda Pacey.

Also, watch for Illinois PLTW website hot links to school websites (if your school has a special PTLW website within the school site, please contact affiliate director Brenda Pacey with your website link information) to be added soon.

Illinois PLTW Certification Visit Requests

Is your school or district/LEA interested in becoming a PLTW Certified school?

-Contact Illinois Affiliate Director Brenda Pacey to begin the process and to request a Certification visit.

-Review the self-assessment planning materials at the national website (www.pltw.org/certifications.shtml) and watch for Illinois-specific planning steps and procedures to be posted to the Illinois website soon

(<http://www.pltw.illinois.edu/certification.htm>).

-High School Certification visits involve visiting PLTW classes and meeting with school, community partners, students, and parents during a one-day visit.

-Certification visit fees are \$500 per school, with discounted rates arranged for coordinated LEA/multiple joiner school visits and for district-level/multiple school visits.

-Middle School recognition process involves online reporting and direct review by national PLTW staff, with a \$150 per school fee charged.

Bradley University to Become Illinois PLTW Associate Agency

-The University of Illinois and Bradley University's College of Engineering and Technology are finalizing an agreement to officially recognize their special statewide partnership in support of Illinois Project Lead the Way activities. New national PLTW guidelines allow for Affiliate Universities to designate one or more Associate Agencies to cooperate with Affiliate Universities (University of Illinois is the Illinois Affiliate institution).

-Richard Johnson serves as Dean of the Bradley University's College of Engineering. Richard (Dick) Greene serves as Bradley's Engineers for Tomorrow Coordinator, as Illinois representative for the Kern Family Foundation PLTW grant program, and will serve as Bradley Associate Liaison to the University of Illinois Affiliate program.

Contacts

For further information, visit the Illinois (www.ptlw.illinois.edu) and national (www.ptlw.org) Project Lead the Way information websites.

For assistance with Illinois PLTW programs and services, contact:

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