

## This Just In!

## Deputy Superintendent Kasson earns Outstanding Administrator Award from Project Lead the Way (PLTW)

**P** roject Lead the Way recognizes outstanding administrators at the forefront of developing and encouraging new ways to facilitate learning experiences that ensure students continue to thrive.

Vestal Deputy Superintendent Clifford Kasson is one of 11 administrators selected across the U.S. to have earned the 2022-23 Outstanding PLTW Administrator award, which recognizes outstanding educational leaders for their commitment to providing students with meaningful learning experiences through PLTW programs.

PLTW is honoring Mr. Kasson for his work in the PLTW Engineering-Technology program. He has been an administrator in Vestal for 16 years. Mr. Kasson is a certified Master Teacher for Project Lead the Way, and holds certifications in Secondary Education of Mathematics, K - 12 Special Education, Technology Education, and NYS School Building/District Leader.

From the beginning of his time in Vestal, Mr. Kasson not only established the Project Lead the Way program at Vestal HS, implementing the curriculum for foundation, specialization, and capstone courses, but also promoted the program through many avenues. Throughout all grade levels, he encourages partnerships with community STEM hubs, such as Lockheed Martin Owego, where volunteers brought robotics kits into elementary school classrooms to spark student interest in engineering and programming. He was instrumental in establishing a STEAM Club at Vestal HS to inspire inquiry and connect problem-solving to real-world solutions. He made funding for two new PLTW learning spaces at Vestal HS a priority with the District's latest Capital Project, and these spaces now house the area's regional Southern Tier Robotics Team.

Please join us in congratulating Mr. Kasson on this tremendous honor! He reflects the commitment to excellence that Vestal embodies.

## About 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, 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 across the country offer PLTW programs. For more information, visit <u>pltw.org</u>.