



Preparing for a PLTW Certification Visit

The certification visit is the second step in the process for becoming a PLTW Certified High School or Recognized Middle School. It should be completed when your school is in its second year of implementation. The visit gives us an opportunity to meet with those involved with PLTW at your school to get a sense of the curriculum's implementation and the community response to it. You are responsible for setting the schedule for the visit, and the following information is provided to help you.

What program components are we analyzing during the visit?

- Faculty training
- Counselor training
- Laboratory Facilities
- Advisory Board structure and function
- Plan for offering a full sequence of courses and sustaining the program

What interviews/discussions should be planned?

During the visit, we would like to meet with and interview representatives from the following groups:

- PLTW faculty
- Administration
- Guidance
- PLTW Students
- Advisory Board
- Involved Community Members (industry, parents)

How much time should be allotted for the visit?

The visit timeframe will vary depending on how you schedule it. Visits typically last 3-4 hours. At least 10-15 minutes should be allotted for each group interview.

What are some specific discussion topics we can expect?

Much of the discussion during interviews will focus on the items in the self-assessment submitted. Here are some specific questions we might ask:

- Advisory Board
- What is your current implementation structure for the program (e.g. schedule, criteria for taking PLTW courses, etc.)
- What is your plan for continuing the course implementation toward offering a full sequence?
- What are your plans for sustaining the program (e.g. student promotion, funding)
- Have all faculty teaching PLTW courses attended recent training for their specific courses?
- Are the facilities and equipment adequate for teaching the PLTW curriculum?



- Does the Guidance Department have a good understanding of the program to help with targeting and promoting to students?
- Does the Administration have a good understanding of the program?
- Is the Administration supportive of the program?
- What is the interest level among students?
- How do students taking PLTW courses feel about the curriculum?
- Do parents feel informed about the program?
- How is the Advisory Board structured? What are its functions? What groups are represented?

If you have any questions, please contact:

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