

## **ACE Academy Achieves Certification for Nationally Recognized Engineering Program**

Portland, OR – **ACE Academy** has received full certification for their **Project Lead The Way® (PLTW)** program, a high school math, science, technology, engineering curriculum offered throughout the nation.

The primary purposes of the certification program are to recognize schools which have successfully demonstrated a commitment to the quality national standards of the Pathway To Engineering program, and to provide an opportunity for students to apply for college credit for selected **PLTW®** courses.

The certification report states: *“ACE Academy is a unique model that could be expanded throughout Oregon and the Nation. All students interviewed have a defined direction after their graduation, either to an apprenticeship program, community college, or 4-year university. The industry partners provide real-world projects, mentors students, and are willing to come on campus to critique student presentations.”*

The structured yet flexible PLTW program – a perfect complement to ACE’s learning environment - offers students in-depth, hands-on knowledge of engineering and technology-based careers. The courses include Introduction to Engineering Design™, Principles of Engineering™ and Digital Electronics™. Each senior at ACE also executes a Senior Capstone Project.

The PLTW Site Visit Team was very impressed with all aspects of ACE’s program and with the vitality and interest of students, staff and community in the program. As a result of the certification, ACE students are now eligible to apply for the Exemplary Student Recognition Program and transcribed college credit, if they qualify.

The engineering curriculum is also of value to ACE’s architecture and construction students. The premise at ACE is to provide educational career paths in the design-build industry. The engineering program provides important cross training that will give students a deeper understanding and appreciation for the various careers in the built environment.

For more information about ACE, please visit: [www.acecharterschool.org](http://www.acecharterschool.org), or to learn about Project Lead The Way, visit [www.pltw.org](http://www.pltw.org).