

By completely immersing these 5 schools into PLTW we are moving forward at a rapid pace that is still allowing us to ensure the process can be replicated successfully and to a high degree in the other 17 elementary schools in our community.

- The PLTW kits and robotics have been ordered and should be here within 2 weeks for teachers to start learning about.
- The technology has been ordered, delivered, and is being used now by teachers and students.
- Nine teachers and five principals from the 5 participating schools attended an intense 2.5 day training in August at the University of Montana. Prior to attending the training they went through an 8 hour on-line course on STEM education.
- During September-November, all of the teachers in the 5 schools will receive 8-10 hours of training in addition to the on-line training modules they will complete. A key piece of the success and of your support is providing the professional development to our teachers so they can properly teach STEM Education the way it should be. Plus there is a lot technology teaching strategies that will be implemented to support our student learning.
- The teacher training is broken up into a Building Level Training and Core Training which will be led the Lead Teachers at each school. Some of the activities completed by teachers include how to use the Popplet App, a presentation app for students, a discussion on what is STEM education, and completing an experiment using the activities-, project-, problem-based instructional approach and model of teaching. Teachers will then have access to Ongoing Training.
- Given the amount of professional development all of our 60+ teachers will have over the months of September-November and craziness of the holiday season, the first of the modules will be completed in January by students. The modules will then last throughout the remainder of the school year.
- The next 6 elementary schools are identified and will be taking part in observation of our 5 pilot schools this spring. The next 6 elementary schools are Broadwater, Burlington, Eagle Cliffs, Highland, Meadowlark, and Newman Elementary Schools.
- We are currently working on our middle school piece and hope to have some information in the near future to share!