

PLAINVILLE COMMUNITY SCHOOLS BUSINESS BRIEF

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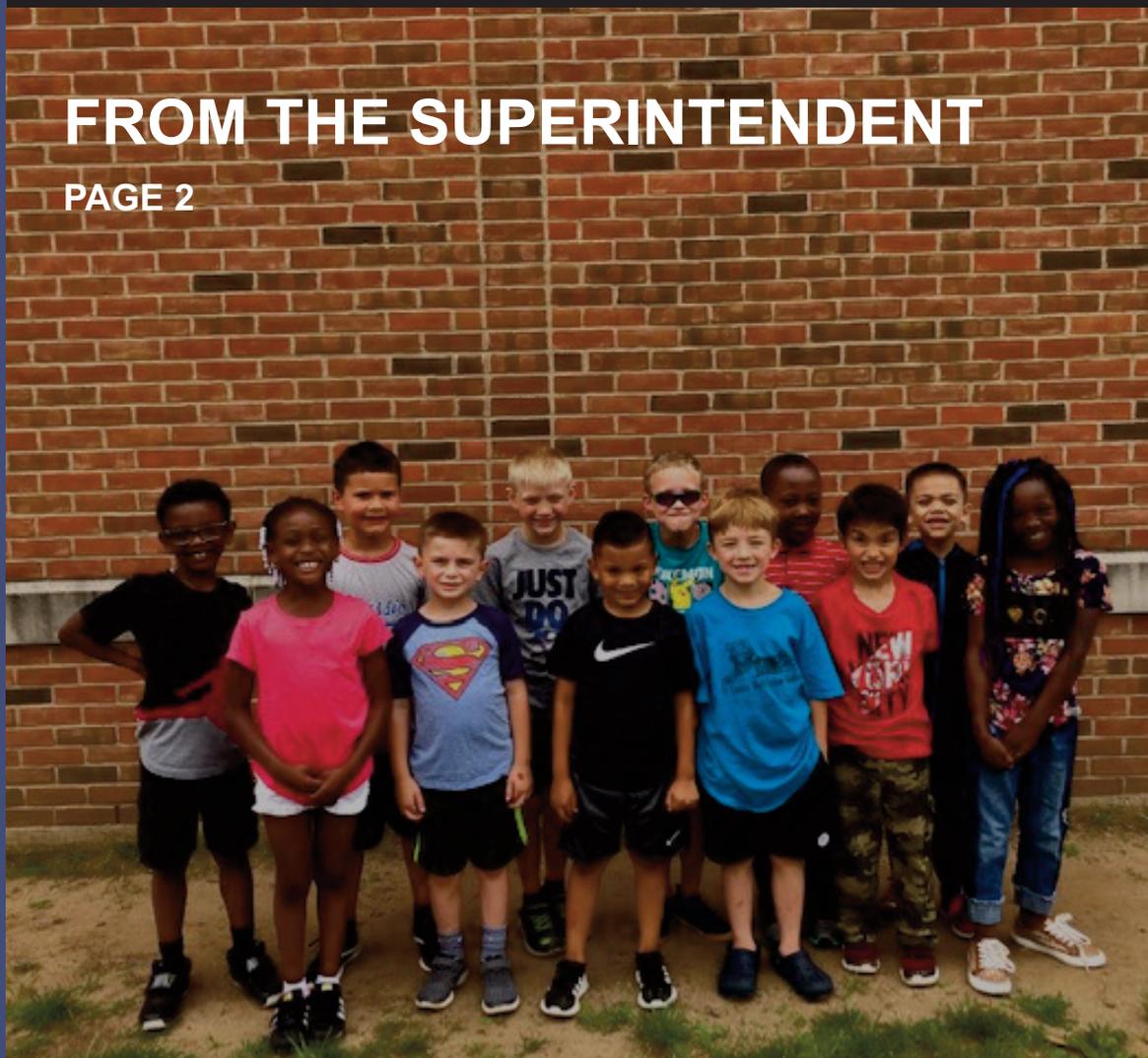
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Plainville Community Schools **inspire** and **prepare** lifelong learners to follow their passion, **engage** in their communities, and positively impact our global society.



Steven K. LePage
Superintendent

These are exciting times in Plainville Community Schools and it is my honor to lead our school district as Plainville's new Superintendent. In preparing my message for this brief, I had an opportunity to review previous *Business Brief* editions from over the last decade. From this journey into the past, it became very clear that we have a tremendous school district that consistently evaluates and places an emphasis on the things that really matter to the success of our students. Over the years, many of the things we do in our schools have remained the same, because as the saying goes, if something isn't broken, don't fix it. However, there has been a great deal of change as well, always striving to remain current and to offer our students the very best opportunities in a rapidly changing world. The world is ever changing and so too must our schools change to prepare students for the future. We constantly evaluate where we are with respect to our district vision, mission and goals. Our leadership team and staff then take the actions necessary to fulfill our district vision: ***Plainville Community Schools inspire and prepare lifelong learners to follow their passion, engage in their communities, and positively impact our global society.***

Over the years, our primary focus has not changed dramatically. That focus being to **inspire, prepare and engage** our students through meaningful and aligned curriculum and instruction designed to ensure the very best outcomes for all students when they leave Plainville High School, whether for college, trade school, military service or employment in the working world. What has changed significantly over the years has been the need to provide more pre-graduation opportunities for students to explore and experience post-high school destination options. With the rising costs of education, we must do our best to help students make good career decisions. Research shows that many students learn far too late that a college degree does not align with what they really want to do for their career, and at that point, the cost of a career change is typically significant.

Through a great amount of planning and effort, our district purposefully provides students with exposure to what is often referred to as "the real world," that place awaiting our graduates. Some experiences that we have put in place to help students select their post-graduation destination include a robust and meaningful Career Day held for all of our high school students each fall. Career Day provides wonderful options for students to learn about multiple careers of interest each year, choosing from a list of typically 50 or more guest presenters who are asked to join us and to share details about their careers with our students. Career Day is typically not enough in itself to prepare our students with their life direction; however, when combined with regular support from school counselors, teachers, and their families, such opportunities help to significantly expand insight and narrow our students' career focus. We are very proud of our Career Day and hope to continually expand offerings, providing students with vital insights about their potential future career paths.

In addition to the wonderful professionals we have developed relationships with for Career Day, our community collaboration through the School Business Community Partnership program has continued to expand and flourish. Through the hard work and outreach of Lynn Davis and Sue Bradley, this program has continued to develop, providing students with meaningful opportunities that inspire, prepare and engage them in career experiences, work site visits, job shadows, internships and potential job opportunities. This program aligns with our vision, and it is increasingly apparent that school districts can't provide everything our students need on their own. We must continue to build collaborative relationships with the businesses and community members who can help to open our students' eyes to the possibilities that await them after they graduate.

Plainville Community Schools will continue to fulfill our vision, mission and strategic plan goals which all center on development of **students, teaching and learning** that set our graduates up for success in the world awaiting them. We cannot do this alone and I look forward to continuing our partnerships with the community and local businesses that are so vital to our students' learning and preparation for focused post-secondary direction-setting.

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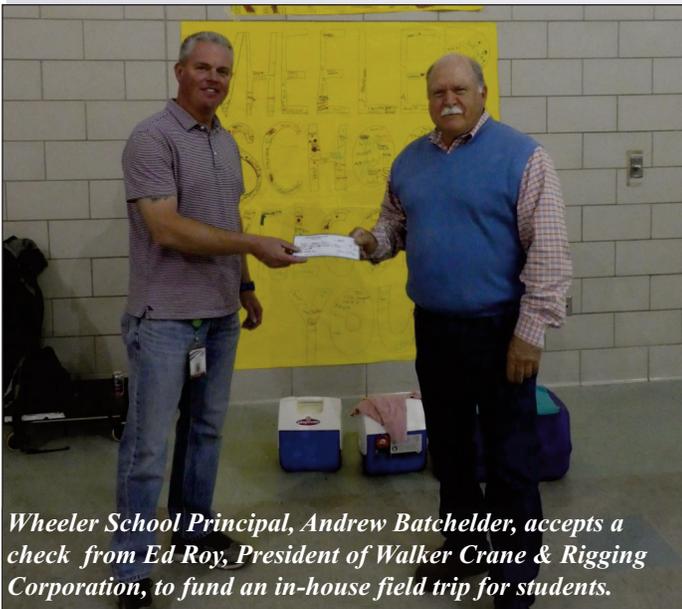


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Superintendent of Schools

David Levenduski
Assistant Superintendent of Schools

Sam Adlerstein
Director of Business and Operations



Wheeler School Principal, Andrew Batchelder, accepts a check from Ed Roy, President of Walker Crane & Rigging Corporation, to fund an in-house field trip for students.

The School Business Community (SBC) Partnership program continues to welcome new partners from local businesses and the community. The SBC program focuses on building collaborative opportunities and partnerships throughout the community. During the 2018-19 school year, the program was officially “launched” with an SBC partnership breakfast event. Businesses and community organizations were invited to Plainville High School to enjoy breakfast, networking, conversation and an overview of the school district and partnership needs. Current partnerships and programs were highlighted and information was shared by staff and students about ways to “connect” with Plainville Community Schools. The district’s primary areas of need are: funding, supplies and consumables, volunteers and manpower, and employment and vocational support for students.

As a result of the SBC program breakfast event, we welcomed several new school district partners. Ed Roy, President of Walker Crane & Rigging Corporation, became an SBC partner and sponsored an “in-house” field trip for Wheeler School students in the spring. Additionally, several new SBC partners collaborated this year through sponsorship of the middle school robotics program. Thanks to business and community partner support, the middle school team was able to host a state championship and compete successfully throughout the year. To continue efforts to connect Plainville High School students to high demand, 21st century vocational opportunities, several SBC business partners participated in the first STEM / Manufacturing career panel event at the high school. Participants included representatives from Trumpf, Manafort Brothers, Fluid Control Solutions, ACME Monaco, DATTCO, and Tunxis Community College. “We are grateful for all of our School Business Community partners and look forward to future collaboration with additional businesses and organizations,” said Director of Community Relations, Lynn Davis.



“
The program offers students the opportunity to master skills that support a successful transition to careers, higher education and the military.”

In the Field...Fieldwork Experience Program

Students at Plainville High School will have an additional means to explore vocational paths with the launch of the “Fieldwork Experience Program,” this fall. The program offers students the opportunity to master skills that support a successful transition to careers, higher education and the military. Participants in the Fieldwork Experience Program receive academic credit for completing a minimum of 55 hours per semester in a local vocational internship setting. Students will have the opportunity to intern at a local business or organization, learning first-hand about a career in a particular field or line of work. Students and their host sites are supported by a Fieldwork Internship Advisor.

Plainville High School is currently seeking “Vocational Hosts” for student placements. If your company or organization is interested in serving as a Fieldwork Experience host site for a student during the 2019-20 school year, please contact:

Director of Community Relations, Lynn Davis (860) 793-3210 ext 6111 davisl@plainvilleschools.org

or

Career Center Coordinator, Sue Bradley (860) 793-3210 ext 6110 bradleys@plainvilleschools.org

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INNOVATION IN EDUCATION FOUNDATION

The Plainville Community Schools' Innovation in Education Foundation was established during the 2018-19 school year, thanks to a generous donation from the Fitzgibbon Endowment. Grants will be made annually to support students, teaching and learning. Plainville Community Schools awarded its first Innovation in Education Foundation grant in May to Louis Toffolon Elementary School faculty members Rob Siliman and Mike Zaba, to support a "Community Garden" project at Toffolon. The \$1,000 grant will fund eight additional garden boxes to expand the current number of raised beds for growing flowers and vegetables at Toffolon School. Donations to the Innovation In Education Foundation allow for student, teacher and staff grants to fund innovative projects, programs and initiatives. Donations to the foundation may be made directly via the Community Foundation of Greater New Britain's website at: <http://www.cfgnb.org>

**For additional information about the Innovation in Education Foundation, please contact:
 Director of Community Relations, Lynn Davis (860) 793-3210 ext. 6111.**

20 WAYS TO PARTNER WITH PCS

There are many ways that local businesses and organizations can partner with Plainville Community Schools! Please consider collaborating with us:

- Become a volunteer Reading Partner, Mentor or Tutor
- Adopt a School to meet their needs throughout the school year
- Purchase a "Wish List" item for a classroom or school to enhance teaching or learning
- Make a donation to the Innovation in Education Foundation
- Host a PHS student in a Job Shadow
- Sponsor a reading program event for families
- Offer an internship, apprenticeship or part time employment to a high school student
- Donate art supplies, crafts or STEM Lab materials
- Offer worksite tours
- Volunteer with or sponsor the robotics program
- Serve as a Career Day speaker
- Support a specific program, event or project
- Serve as a guest speaker in a classroom
- Conduct a book drive for a classroom or grade
- Provide funding or transportation for a field trip
- Donate school supplies
- Offer refreshments to school staff once a month for a faculty meeting or other school event
- Host professional development opportunities for faculty or staff, or offer workshops for students
- Serve on a School Business Community Roundtable or panel event
- Or tell us how you would like to serve as a district partner.

Please contact: Sue Bradley,
 Career Center Coordinator,
 (860) 793-3210 ext 6110

DATA

CLASS OF 2019

Graduating Class Size: 178

- 78% pursuing higher education
- 5.5% attending a vocational/trade school
- 0.5% going into the military
- 13% going into the workforce
- 3% retained

139 students pursuing higher education

- 4 year college: 70%
- 2 year college: 30%
- In-state schools: 76%
- Out-of-state schools: 24%
- Accepted to 1st choice college/trade school: 80%
- 7,612 hours of community service completed
- 91 members (51%) of the Class of 2019 earned 1,087 college credits through the UCONN Early College Experience Program

Did you know?

Plainville Adult and Continuing Education offers professional training via eCourses:
http://www.plainvilleschools.org/departments/adult_ed