

For Immediate Release
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Media Release

Cario Named Distinguished School for STEM and Career Learning Program

**Thomas C. Cario Middle
School**

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Principal

Mount Pleasant, SC – Thomas C. Cario Middle School (CMS) continues to build on its well-rounded tradition of academic excellence, accomplishments in the arts, and career readiness. This week, Cario Middle was recognized as a national Project Lead the Way (PLTW) Distinguished School for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities for students through PLTW Gateway™. CMS is one of just 110 middle schools in the country, and only one of five in South Carolina, to receive this honor in 2018.

[PLTW](#) is a non-profit organization that serves millions of K-12 students and teachers in over 10,500 schools across the United States.

“This recognition validates what incredible access students have to nationally-approved STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math) curriculum at Cario,” explained Principal Sharon Randall. “We are honored to be recognized as being a PLTW Distinguished School in STEM and in using PLTW Gateway™.”

The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. Cario offers all ten PLTW Gateway units, the maximum, to their students:

- App Creators
- Automation and Robotics
- Computer Science for Innovators and Makers
- Design and Modeling
- Energy and the Environment
- Flight and Space
- Green Architecture
- Magic of Electrons
- Medical Detectives
- Science of Technology

Students develop STEM knowledge through PLTW programs, as well as in-demand, transportable skills that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives. PLTW Gateway empowers students to lead their own discovery and uncover a

range of paths and possibilities they can look forward to in high school and beyond.

“It is a great honor to recognize Cario Middle School for their commitment to providing students with access to high quality STEM education,” said Vince Bertram, President and CEO of PLTW. “They are a model school, and they should be proud of their efforts to ensure students have the knowledge and skills to be career ready and successful on any career path they choose.”

For more about this accomplishment, contact Principal Randall at (843) 856-4595.

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About the Charleston County School District

Charleston County School District (CCSD) is the second largest school system in South Carolina representing a unique blend of urban, suburban, and rural schools that span 1,000 square miles along the coast. CCSD serves more than 50,000 students in 86 schools and specialized programs. With approximately 6,100 employees district-wide, CCSD is the fourth largest employer in the region.

CCSD offers a diverse, expanding portfolio of options and specialized programs, delivered through neighborhood, charter, magnet, IB (international baccalaureate), and Montessori schools, and is divided into three Learning Communities. Options include specialized programs in science, engineering and mathematics; liberal arts; music and other creative and performing arts; career and technical preparation programs; and military and other public service enterprises.

About PLTW

Project Lead The Way (PLTW) is a nonprofit organization that provides a transformative learning experience for K-12 students and teachers across the U.S. PLTW empowers students to develop in-demand, transportable 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. More than 10,500 elementary, middle, and high schools in all 50 states and the District of Columbia offer PLTW programs. For more information on Project Lead the Way, visit pltw.org.