

Park View receives national PLTW recognition

It's the school's seventh consecutive Project Lead The Way honor

Mukwonago's Park View Middle School has been recognized as a 2023-24 Project Lead The Way Distinguished School. This honor is given to a select number of middle schools across the U.S. for providing broad access to transformative learning experiences for students through PLTW Gateway, a grade 6-8 STEM curriculum.

This is the seventh consecutive year Park View Middle School has been recognized with the award. PLTW is a national nonprofit organization that serves millions of PreK-12 students and teachers in schools across the U.S. "This award recognizes our continuing commitment to offering students the opportunity to enroll in engaging and empowering Project Lead the Way courses," said Luke Spielman, Park View

Middle School principal. "In this rapidly changing world, our students will be well-prepared for careers in science, technology, engineering, and mathematics because of their involvement in these hands-on, innovative classes."

The PLTW Distinguished School recognition honors schools committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. To be eligible for the designation, the school had to meet a variety of criteria such as the percentage of students participating in PLTW, the percentage of students who participate in more than one PLTW unit, the number of units offered, and efforts to ensure equitable access to related courses.

Research shows that the middle grades play a pivotal role in influencing high

school, college, and career success. During this transitional time, it's crucial to provide students with access to relevant, engaging, and real-world learning experiences that expose the range of career paths and possibilities available to them. Whether designing an automated robotics system or exploring aerospace by creating designs and prototypes, PLTW Gateway students engage in critical and creative thinking, build teamwork skills, and develop confidence in STEM subjects.

"We are honored to recognize Park View Middle School for their commitment to providing students with exceptional educational experiences while ensuring equitable access to PLTW programs," said Dr. David Dimmett, PLTW President

and CEO. "We congratulate them on this achievement and celebrate their dedication to empowering students with the knowledge and skills to succeed, not only in STEM subjects, but preparing them for future careers and life beyond the classroom."

Park View Middle School is part of a community of PreK-12 schools, colleges and universities, and corporate and philanthropic partners across the country united around a commitment to providing students with inspiring, engaging, and empowering learning opportunities.

For more information on Park View Middle School's PLTW Gateway program, contact Dustin Lehman, coordinator of college and career readiness, at 262-363-6200 x25525 or lehmadu@masd.k12.wi.us.

ETHS named one of U.S. News and World Report's best

In a testament to its commitment to excellence in education, East Troy High School has been recognized as one of the Best High Schools by U.S. News and World Report for 2024. This prestigious honor highlights the dedication and hard work of students, educators, and the entire East Troy community.

U.S. News and World Report, a globally renowned authority in education rankings, has identified East Troy High School as a standout institution within the state of Wisconsin. The school's inclusion in this esteemed list underscores its academic rigor, student achievement, and overall performance.

East Troy High School, part of the East Troy Community School District, has long been known for its unwavering commitment to providing students with a comprehensive and enriching educational experience. From its rigorous curriculum to its supportive learning environment, the school fosters a culture of academic excellence and personal growth.

The rankings are based on a comprehensive evaluation of factors such as graduation rates, college readiness, and performance on state assessments. ETHS's strong performance across these metrics solidifies its position as a leader in secondary education.

"(It's) definitely a great accomplishment for the high school and the entire district – everyone involved in the educational process should take pride in this," superintendent Chris Hibner said.

The recognition from U.S. News and World Report serves as validation of East Troy High School's dedication to providing students with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities they need to thrive in an ever-changing world. As the school looks toward the future, it remains committed to empowering students to reach their full potential and achieve their goals.

"We are a small school and community that is dedicated to ensuring our students receive a rigorous education that supports their post-secondary goals. We offer 14 Advanced Placement courses on campus at ETHS, 34 transcripted (college-level) courses on campus, and have over 40 students participating in our state accredited youth apprenticeship program," Stacey Kuehn, principal, said.

"A huge thank you to our teachers and staff that support our students in their educational journey and congratulations to our students," Kuehn added.

As East Troy High School celebrates this achievement, it reaffirms its commitment to serving as a beacon of excellence in education and a source of pride for the entire East Troy community.

School officials said they look forward to continuing the tradition of academic excellence and making a positive impact on the lives of students and the community for years to come.

Other schools in the area named to the list by U.S. News and World Report include Brookfield East, Eisenhower, Brookfield Central, Muskego, New Berlin, Williams Bay, Mukwonago, West, Elkhorn, Waukesha Engineering Prep, Turner and Oak Creek.

“A huge thank you to our teachers and staff that support our students in their educational journey and congratulations to our students.”
— Stacey Kuehn



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Supportive of fun learning

First Citizens State Bank recently made a \$500 donation to support (CO)OPERATION LEARN, the East Troy Elementary School family fun night for students, families and staff. The goal of the event is to provide a fun learning night for elementary families to connect with the schools and local organizations. From the left: Jill Johnson, FCSB Asst. Branch Manager, Jennifer Bower, Vice-President/Branch Manager; and Christine Hamele, Elementary School Counselor.

Court blotter

The following people were charged with these Class H felony offenses in Walworth County Circuit Court between April 29 and May 3:

Class H

Class H, punishable by up to six years in prison and \$10,000 in fines:

Bail jumping

• David T. Hansen, 39, of East Troy; two counts of felony bail jumping with domestic abuse assessments, and one as a repeater; criminal damage to property with domestic abuse assessments, felony battery with domestic abuse assessments and as a repeater, felony bail jumping and obstructing an officer.

According to the criminal complaint, on April 16, Town of East Troy police were called to a Hickory Street home for a report of a family problem. On arrival, an intoxicated woman told police that



David Hansen

she was arguing with her husband, Hansen, because she believed he was cheating on her.

She said when she was trying to gather her belongings, Hansen threw them into the washing machine, with the exception of her phone, which he damaged so it was no longer operational. Hansen pushed her during the argument, she reported, and threw personal items off her vanity.

They then "made love" before they started arguing again and she called police. On April 22, police were dispatched to Mukwonago Pro Health Hospital where the woman was being treated. She told police she, Hansen and their 3-year-old drove to

Antioch, Illinois, to purchase marijuana from a dispensary, when Hansen grabbed her by the neck and smashed it against the dashboard approximately six times.

She said her son was crying and when she would try to check on him from the front seat, Hansen would swerve in and out of the traffic lane, throwing her into the side window so she was unable to attend to their son.

She said that once they arrived back home, at some point, Hansen grabbed their toddler's birthday cake and stuffed it into her purse. She had bruising on her forehead, and reported pain in the back of her neck.

While the woman was in the hospital, a Walworth County Sheriff's deputy responded to Timber Ridge Resort in the Town of Lyons to apprehend Hansen on a felony warrant. Hansen was painting on a scaffold when the dep-

uty called his name and he claimed to be "John Reisinger" and said his ID was inside his truck.

While the deputy was attempting to apprehend Hansen, he fled on foot, then drove away from the resort. He was later involved in a chase with Oak Creek police, before abandoning his truck that he evaded officers in, and was later arrested. Charges are pending in Kenosha County for first-degree recklessly endangering safety and fleeing an officer.

Hansen was released on bond Feb. 15 for battery with domestic abuse enhancements and was ordered not to commit any new crimes, nor have contact with his wife. He was convicted in Waukesha County on Feb. 22, 2023, of six domestic-abuse-related felonies, including stalking, strangulation and suffocation, reckless endangering safety and substantial battery.

Attempted strangulation

• Nathan D. Grady, 29, of Genoa City; attempted strangulation and suffocation, misdemeanor battery and disorderly conduct, all with domestic abuse assessments; and threat to a law enforcement officer and resisting arrest.

According to the criminal complaint, on April 12 Village of Bloomfield police were dispatched to a home on Eau Claire Road for a report of a man being disorderly. When police arrived they met a woman who was crying and had visible redness on her face, neck and chest. Near her was a coach flipped upside down.

She told police that when she arrived home earlier, her boyfriend, Grady, was drunk and sitting on the coach talking on the phone to a woman. When she took the phone from Grady to speak with the unknown woman,

she said he followed her up the stairs and began to attack her "and wouldn't stop."

He grabbed her by the hair and began "whipping her around the room" by her hair. He then began hitting her in the head continuously and also attempted to choke her out by grabbing her neck, she said. She said Grady went from choking her using one hand, to two, then using his forearm. He was also yelling that he would kill her while he was choking her, she said.

She said the assault lasted for about five minutes before he stopped and left the house. Their three children were present at the time.

A witness told police that Grady hit a row of mailboxes while he was driving away from the home. He was later fighting with police in the Lake Geneva Walgreen's parking lot, resisting arrest and threatening to hurt and kill officers present at the scene.