



Project Lead the Way

Penn Yan Central School District has been recognized as a Project Lead The Way (PLTW) Distinguished District for providing broad access to transformative learning opportunities for students through its PLTW programs. It is one of just over 30 districts across the U.S. to receive this honor. PLTW is a nonprofit organization that serves millions of K-12 students and teachers in over 10,500 schools across the U.S. The PLTW Distinguished District recognition honors districts committed to increasing student access, engagement, and achievement in their PLTW programs. To be eligible for the designation, [district] had to have had 20 percent or more of its students in each grade, K-12, participate in a PLTW program during the 2016-17 school year.

Through PLTW programs, students develop STEM knowledge as well as in-demand, transportable skills that they will use both in school and for the rest of their lives, on any career path they take. As PLTW students' progress through grades K-12, they are empowered to engage in problem solving and process thinking, develop technical knowledge and skills, build communication skills, and explore career opportunities.

“It is a great honor to recognize Penn Yan for its commitment to students,” said Vince Bertram, President and CEO of PLTW. “These educators are leaders in what school should look like, and they should be very proud of ensuring students have the knowledge and skills to be career ready and successful on any career path they choose.”

Penn Yan is part of a community of K-12 schools, colleges and universities, and corporate and philanthropic partners across the country united around a passion for providing students with inspiring, engaging, and empowering learning opportunities. For more information about PLTW's recognition program, visit www.pltw.org/our-programs/program-recognition.

U.S. News Best High Schools

Penn Yan Academy was ranked in the 2018 Best High Schools rankings among the elite schools. We scored high enough to earn a Bronze Best High Schools “badge”. Schools are ranked based on their performance on state-required tests and how well they prepare students for college. U.S. News badges are widely recognized as symbols of excellence in education.

Less than 30% of the schools earned the right to display a badge and to be called Best High Schools. U.S. News badges are widely recognized as symbols of excellence in education.

Visit <https://www.usnews.com/education/best-high-schools/new-york/districts/penn-yan-central-school-district/penn-yan-academy-13966> for details.

Best Community for Music Education

Penn Yan Central School District has been honored with the Best Communities for Music Education designation from The NAMM Foundation for its outstanding commitment to music education.

The Best Communities for Music Education designation is awarded to districts that demonstrate outstanding achievement in efforts to provide music access and education to all students. To qualify for the Best Communities designation, Penn Yan Central School District and Music Department Chairs, Jessica Kinsey and Jennifer Chaffee answered detailed questions about funding, graduation requirements, music class participation, instruction time, facilities, support for the music program, and community music-making programs. Responses were verified with school officials and reviewed by The Music Research Institute at the University of Kansas.

This award recognizes that Penn Yan Central School District is leading the way with learning opportunities as outlined in the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The legislation guides implementation in the states and replaces the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB) which was often criticized for an overemphasis on testing-while leaving behind subjects such as music. ESSA recommends music and the arts as important elements of a well-rounded education for all children.

The NAMM Foundation is a nonprofit supported in part by the National Association of Music Merchants and its approximately 10,300 members around the world. The foundation advances active participation in music making across the lifespan by supporting scientific research, philanthropic giving, and public service programs. For more information about the NAMM Foundation, please visit www.nammfoundation.org.