



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

THOMAS D. WATKINS, JR.
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

November 5, 2003

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Thomas D. Watkins, Jr., Chairman

SUBJECT: Report on Approval of the Michigan After-School Initiative Report

House Resolution No. 26 was passed in April. It required that the Department of Education and Family Independence Agency co-chair a task force to research the current state of after-school services in Michigan and recommend best practices to develop a plan for after-school programs for all children in Michigan who need them. The legislation requires:

That the Department of Education and the Family Independence Agency shall report to the Governor and Legislature on the Michigan After-school Initiative plan and submit recommendations by December 15, 2003.

To meet this legislative mandate, the attached legislative report has been prepared by a large group representing organizations, programs and advocates for out-of-school activities. Youth themselves were involved in the process. Private partners provided funding for the work of the task force. The entire task force of 70 members met three times over six months and the coordinating committee met five times. Each of the five sub-committees met numerous times to develop the report.

The task force selected Michigan State University Institute for Children, Youth and Families and Park, Recreation and Tourism Resources to manage the required survey and edit and forward the report to the task force. The report has numerous recommendations for a statewide structure to support local after-school programs. The recommendations are consistent with the State Board of Education recommendations on Integrating Communities and Schools.

Attachments

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