



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

February 25, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Principals and Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction 

SUBJECT: 2010 Census in Schools

The 2010 Census is fast approaching and the U.S. Census Bureau needs your help to ensure all your students and their families are counted. By partnering with the Census Bureau and participating in the Census in Schools program, your teachers can educate their students on the importance of the census so children can convey this message to their families.

Your students and their families may not realize it, but participation in the census is vital. Census data directly affect how more than \$400 billion per year in federal funding is distributed to state, local and tribal governments. This equates to \$10,000 for each person counted. Census data are critical in determining improvement to schools, school funding, locations for new hospitals, building new roads, expanding public transportation options and creating new maps for emergency responders, reapportioning the U.S. House of Representatives and distribution of the Electoral College.

To help educate your students, the Census Bureau has created [Census in Schools Website](#). This site houses age-specific materials for K-12 students. Included are maps displaying population counts and other demographic information; and lesson plans grouped by grade and correlated to national standards for math, geography and language arts. Kits for principals contain maps, a Census in Schools program brochure, information about online lessons, quick-start teaching guides and family take-home kits.

Additionally, online resources are available and include lesson plans, family take-home kits, event ideas and census data. The interactive, user-friendly web site features memory games, word finds, state facts, coloring pages and research project ideas.

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As you know, educators are trusted figures in the community and children are influential voices at home. Help us make sure everyone is counted by teaching your students about the vital role of the census. Please visit <http://www.census.gov/schools/> for more information.

cc: William Mayes, MASA
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