



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** September 8, 2016

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*

**SUBJECT:** Guidance on 2016-17 Budget Transparency (Section 18)

The Michigan Department of Education has updated its Budget Transparency guidance, which may be found on our [website](#). There were no legislative changes made to the Budget Transparency requirements for 2016-17. Our guidance has been updated with annotated examples of required documents. These examples have been taken directly from school district websites.

Last year, language was added to the State School Aid Act (MCL 388.1618 Subsection 11), which imposes a state school aid penalty on those districts that do not comply with Budget Transparency. In an effort to avoid a state aid penalty, we will again be relying on assistance from ISDs and authorizers. Budget Transparency correspondence is typically sent to the LEA or PSA business manager, with a copy to the respective ISD or authorizer.

Early reviews of Budget Transparency websites will be available again this year. Compliance reviews begin December 1, but you don't have to wait for your website to be reviewed. For an early review with immediate feedback, please contact Chad Urchike after your website has been updated.

Questions related to Budget Transparency and early website review requests should be directed to Chad Urchike at [UrchikeC1@michigan.gov](mailto:UrchikeC1@michigan.gov) or 517-335-1261.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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