



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

September 4, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents and  
Public School Academy Directors  
Office of Great Start Childhood Program Contacts

**FROM:** Mike Flanagan   
State Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Culture of Reading Grant Program Application

The Culture of Reading program was started in December 2013 as a way to get more books into the hands of Michigan children to support early literacy. The program provides a way for individuals, businesses, and groups to contribute any amount for the express purpose of providing children's books to young readers and expand the effort to get more kids reading proficiently by the end of third grade.

The Culture of Reading grant program is the mechanism by which books will be distributed to young readers. The grant program will provide all students in selected early childhood through 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classrooms their own copy of this year's *Michigan Reads! Book of the Year, Acoustic Rooster and His Barnyard Band*.

More information about program eligibility and the application for the Culture of Reading grant program is now available at the Culture of Reading website ([www.michigan.gov/cultureofreading](http://www.michigan.gov/cultureofreading)). Please help support early literacy by sharing this grant program and application information with eligible educators. Applications must be received by **5:00 p.m. on October 6, 2014** via email ([CultureofReading@michigan.gov](mailto:CultureofReading@michigan.gov)) or regular mail:

Michigan Department of Education  
Culture of Reading Grant Program  
Attn: Abbie Groff-Blaszak  
PO Box 30008  
Lansing, MI 48909

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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