



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 11, 2016

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

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. *V. Keesler*  
Deputy Superintendent, Accountability Services

Norma Jean Sass *NJS*  
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

**SUBJECT:** Educator Evaluation Supports and Grant Programs

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is currently developing a number of tools and grant programs to support implementation of local educator evaluation systems as required by PA 173 (2015). The purpose of this memo is to provide a preview of and general timeline for the roll-out of these tools and programs.

- A new MDE webpage is now active at [www.michigan.gov/mde-edevals](http://www.michigan.gov/mde-edevals), where all information regarding educator evaluation can be accessed. Previous information on topics including student learning objectives, student growth percentiles, and historical reports on educator evaluations in Michigan have been migrated to the new page. As additional guidance related to educator evaluations, including grant programs, is released, it will be posted on the MDE website.
- Criteria for three grant programs to support the implementation of educator evaluations will be presented to the State Board of Education on March 8, 2016. These programs include
  - \$12.1 million to support required training on evaluation tools for teachers and administrators. These funds will be allocated to intermediate school districts (ISD) on a per-pupil formula basis. The ISDs will be required to work with their constituent local education agencies (LEAs) and public school academies (PSAs), as well as form collaborative partnerships with other ISDs, to ensure that all local evaluation tools are supported.

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- \$1.8 million to support staffing in each of the ten MAISA ISD regions. Staff hired or supported with these funds will work with the ISDs, LEAs, PSAs, and the MDE to coordinate and continuously improve educator evaluation tools, including training therein, statewide.
- \$1.9 million to support research and evaluation efforts, in coordination with research partners, to identify best practices to share; identify barriers to implementation with the intent to find ways to mitigate them; and pilot various tools for use in evaluations, including surveys of parents, students, and teachers.
- It is anticipated that several key guidance documents, including an analysis of the new law, implementation timelines for local districts, and frequently asked questions, will be available on the educator evaluation webpage by the end of February.

Please contact Jennifer Robel at 517-373-9661 or [robelj@michigan.gov](mailto:robelj@michigan.gov) with questions.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance