



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 22, 2015

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

FROM: Venessa Keesler, Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Accountability Services

SUBJECT: Continuing Education, Grand-Peroned School Administrators and State Aid Penalties

On April 22, 2015, the State Superintendent waived Administrative Rule 390.1135 to allow School Administrator Certificate holders to use District Provided Professional Development (DPPD) as an option to fulfill continuing education requirements. This memo extends the waiver to individuals who are employed as school administrators under a grand-personed status, if certain conditions are met.

The original waiver was silent on applicability to individuals who are legally employed as school administrators under Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) 380.1246 Subsection 1(a). This subsection allows individuals who were employed as school administrators prior to January 4, 2010, to be grand-personed into an assignment as a school administrator, in any capacity, in any local school district or Intermediate School District without a school administrator certificate. Grand-personing status does not grant an individual a school administrator certificate. The actual certificate can only be earned by completing an approved school administrator preparation program.

As stipulated by MCL 380.1246(2), to be considered grand-personed, school administrators must show proof of hire before January 4, 2010, and maintain a record of continuing education every five (5) years from their date of hire. Grand-personed school administrators may use a combination of DPPD, State Continuing Education Clock Hours, and semester credit hours, totaling 150 clock hours every five years, to maintain grand-personed status. The waiver applies only to DPPD obtained after the enactment of MCL 380.1246. **Specifically, DPPD completed before January 4, 2010, may not be used to obtain or retain a school administrator's grand-personed status.**

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This notification is of particular importance due to the recent change to MCL [388.1763](#), amended with an effective date of October 1, 2015 (<http://www.legislature.mi.gov/doc.aspx?mcl-388-1763-amended>). The amendment expands the penalties for employing noncertified staff to all educators, including individuals who administer instructional programs.

It is critical that every school, school district, and intermediate school district take a moment to review the changes to legislation, credentials and documentation of continuing education of all school administrators that administer instructional programs to avoid costly State Aid penalties that may adversely affect students.

For additional information, please contact Phil Chase at Chasep2@michigan.gov or 517-241-3960, or Rajah Smart at Smarrtr@michigan.gov or 517-335-6615.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance