



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 25, 2015

**TO:** State Board of Education

**FROM:** Brian J. Whiston, Chairman 

**SUBJECT:** Presentation on Early Literacy

During the last several months, staff from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the State Budget Office, the Governor's office and the legislature have worked together to support a focus on early literacy. The nearly \$30 million dollar initiative will unite projects and resources across the MDE, and provide financial support for local and intermediate school districts in this work.

MDE staff has begun the work of implementing the initiative. In this first informational presentation, staff will update the State Board of Education on the work that has taken place this summer and the steps being taken to fully implement the early literacy initiative. This is a unique opportunity to bring the educational forces of the state together in support of pre-school and K-3 teachers across the state.

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