



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

September 29, 2014

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Presentation on Teacher Preparation, Credentialing, and Professional Learning for Science Education

Over the last few months, the State Board of Education was presented with a vision for science education in Michigan, and subsequently, with a range of considerations regarding assessment practices, implementation strategies, and resource requirements to make this vision a reality. There is a universal recognition of need throughout the state to develop greater scientific literacy among students, to expose students to Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM) concepts and experiences that may foster a long term interest in these fields, and to develop among all students the skills and concepts that are required to succeed in a new economy.

Last month, the presentation addressed a number of implementation considerations for science education that impact the resources, practices, and systems of schools and districts. These were presented to better understand the range of issues that require attention to effectively implement a program. This month's presentation will also focus on implementation factors - this time, looking at the capacity of teachers to provide effective learning opportunities around these concepts. Teacher preparation and ongoing learning considerations will be addressed along with credentialing and certification factors that will affect how schools, universities, and the state support these efforts.

This presentation is intended to lead us to the consideration of new learning expectations for students in science education.

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