



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

August 5, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman 

SUBJECT: Approval of State Board of Education/Department of Education Goal and Priorities for 2008-2009

The proposed SBE/MDE priorities for 2008-2009 (attached) are based on conversations at the June 16, 2008 State Board of Education retreat.

The Strategic Goal remains the same, but the Priorities and major activities to accomplish the priorities have been modified based on input from MDE staff. The proposed priorities include:

- Re-imagine the pre-K-12 educational system in Michigan that will lead to the State Board of Education's expectation of student achievement.
Continue to review and improve Michigan's teacher preparation system.
Continue to advocate and promote high school reform, with an emphasis on relevance, relationships, and implementation.
- Implement the "darkening the dotted lines" partnership between the Michigan Department of Education and the intermediate school districts.

The major activities are identified assuming full staffing and funding resources. Modifications will need to be made if budget cuts require staff lay-offs and loss of implementation funding.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the Michigan State Board of Education/Department of Education Goal and Priorities for 2008-09, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum August 5, 2008.

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**2008-2009
MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION/
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
STRATEGIC PLAN**

STRATEGIC GOAL

Attain substantial and meaningful improvement in academic achievement for all students/children with primary emphasis on high priority schools and students.

PRIORITIES

Re-imagine the pre-K-12 educational system in Michigan that will lead to the State Board of Education's expectation for student achievement.

Major Activities*

1. Secure input from stakeholders on a "re-imagined" system.
 - a. Work with Regional Educational Laboratory (REL) Midwest and others, including the Education Alliance.
 - b. Capture the voices of students, parents, educators, business, and SBE in re-imagining the system.
 - c. Provide findings from the input to the State Board of Education.

2. Design "re-imagined" pre-K-12 educational systems to attain student achievement goals.
 - a. Identify changes necessary in policies, practices, and procedures.
 - b. Develop strategies to align resources to implement the re-imagined system.

Continue to review and improve Michigan's teacher preparation system.

Major Activities*

1. Develop and implement a framework for excellence in teacher preparation.
2. Design and implement a three-tiered teacher licensure system
3. Develop and implement alternative preparation and certification program criteria/standards to facilitate the transition to secondary teaching from other professions.
4. Streamline endorsements to reduce confusion and administrative oversight
5. Increase the rigor of the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification (MTTC).

6. Complete accreditation system for teacher preparation institutions that includes national accreditation, a Michigan-identified priority, and satisfactory performance on Title II Annual Performance Report.
7. Establish a Research Collaborative to improve teacher preparation and inform student learning.

Continue to advocate and promote high school reform, with an emphasis on relevance, relationships, and implementation.

Major Activities*

1. Explore additional pilots in schools that are working to create competency based systems, moving away from "seat time" as the measure for awarding academic credit.
2. Observe and promote the Michigan Merit graduation requirements through a focus on key elements such as: personal curriculum modifications, graduation and drop out data, Early and Middle Colleges, and dual enrollment participation.
3. Continue collaboration between general education (including special education) and career and technical education for curriculum alignment and applied learning instructional strategies.
4. Continue to provide a forum for sharing best practices that help high schools be successful with all students, particularly in the area of math, including differentiated and project-based learning and student-centered learning environments.
5. Continue development of a longitudinal data system, built around the student unique identification code (UIC).
6. Develop framework for 21st Century schools initiative (small high schools), award first round of grants and provide technical assistance to recipients.

Implement the "darkening the dotted lines" partnership between the Michigan Department of Education and the intermediate school districts.

Major Activities*

1. Support the revised committee structure and respective charges/plans of action; each committee is co-chaired by MDE staff and an MAISA member.

DTDG Governance Committee on Joint Initiatives

Charge: Direct initiatives identified and agreed upon to be partnership efforts between MDE and the ISDs. Work with other MAISA and MDE standing or Ad Hoc Committees as appropriate.

High Priority Schools Committee

Charge: Develop a 5-year strategic plan to provide high priority schools assistance/support in a seamless and efficient way. Advise on the use and dissemination of school improvement grant funds and other appropriate resources.

Monitoring and Compliance Committee

Charge: Identify and target professional development/technical assistance in major areas of procurement, timekeeping, unallowable activities and costs, and cash management. Define Levels 1 and 2 roles and responsibilities for monitoring and compliance and develop processes.

Support Services Committee

Charge: Provide guidance and follow up related to consolidation efforts including consolidation of services and consolidation of school districts. Identify and review joint processes and procedures and recommend efficiencies.

Other Committees

Additional standing and ad hoc committees may be established and charged as agreed to by both parties.

2. Develop strategies to assure that this partnership is institutionalized and sustained.

Other Topics Discussed at SBE Retreat

- Opportunities for student involvement at State Board of Education meetings.
- Assistance to Detroit Public Schools.
- Joint meeting between SBE and PSA Authorizers.

* Based on full staffing and funding resources.