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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
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**To:** LEA and ISD Superintendents, Authorizers and Directors of Public School Academies, High School Principals

**From:** Jeremy M. Hughes, Ph.D. *JMH*  
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

**Date:** January 17, 2007

**SUBJ: SPRING HIGH SCHOOL TESTING**

I am writing for two purposes. The first is to remind high schools that they need to provide seniors with an opportunity to take the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) tests one final time in order to qualify for the new Michigan Promise scholarship, the recently-adopted replacement for the Merit Award Scholarship. The second purpose is indicate an opportunity schools have to assist tenth graders with dual enrollment.

It has come to our attention that some high schools have told high school seniors that they will not administer the MEAP assessments this coming spring since they will be busy administering the Michigan Merit Examination (MME) during the month of March. This is contrary to the state laws (Public Acts 592-596 of 2004) that authorized the MME. These laws indicate that seniors may take the MEAP tests in the fall and spring of their senior year in order to qualify for the Michigan Promise scholarship. While students who do not pass all four parts (Mathematics, Reading, Writing, and Science) of the MEAP will still qualify for the financial award, they will need to wait until the end of their sophomore year in order to receive any money. We expect that there will be a significant number of seniors who will want to qualify for immediate assistance by attempting to pass all four MEAP tests. Therefore, schools should make sure that they offer the retest opportunity to all seniors this spring. It is one activity that could take place during the days (e.g., March 13-16) when juniors are participating in the MME.

Another opportunity for students has also come to our attention. Because some high schools have traditionally scheduled the PLAN assessment in the fall for tenth graders, some schools believe that this assessment can be given only at that time of the school year. College entrance readiness tests such as PLAN and PSAT are the way that tenth graders will qualify for dual enrollment. If your sophomores want to try to qualify for dual enrollment and either missed the fall testing period or did not score high enough to qualify and would like to try again, this is a reminder that the PLAN assessment can be given again during the school year. Schools might want to offer the PLAN assessment to interested sophomores this spring. If your school is interested, please contact ACT directly to schedule the PLAN assessments at a convenient time for your school.

If you have any questions about this memorandum, or the requirement for schools to offer the MEAP tests this spring, please contact Ed Roeber at 517-373-0048 or at [roeber@michigan.gov](mailto:roeber@michigan.gov).

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