



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

March 4, 2010

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents, Public School Academy and Nonpublic School Administrators, Teacher Preparation Institution and College Deans and Directors, Special Education Advisory Committee, and Other Educational Association Executives

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Field Review of the Proposed Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of American Sign Language (ASL) as a World Language

The Michigan Department of Education is pleased to notify you of the development of proposed standards for the preparation of teachers of American Sign Language (ASL) as a world language.

In response to the Michigan Merit Curriculum, schools have the opportunity to use American Sign Language (ASL) to meet the two years of a world language graduation requirement. The Proposed Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of American Sign Language (FS) represents a thorough consideration of input from a committee of experts in ASL. This committee was convened and designed the proposed teacher preparation endorsement standards using the framework of the approved world language standards. These proposed standards are designed to align with the K-12 content standards in the *Michigan Curriculum Framework*, the draft *K-12 Guidelines for Languages Other Than English*, as well as the newest national draft standards as presented in the *Standards for Learning American Sign Language*.

The Proposed Standards for the Preparation of Teachers of American Sign Language can be viewed at:

http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,1607,7-140-6530_5683_6368---,00.html

You are being invited to provide comments as part of a field review of the ASL proposed standards using this URL:

<http://www.zoomerang.com/Survey/?p=WEB22A9373C3V5>

This survey is scheduled to close April 5, 2010 at 5:00 p.m.

Should you have questions regarding the proposed standards, please contact Dr. Bonnie Rockafellow, Education Consultant, at 517/373-7861 or rockafellowb@michigan.gov.

cc: William Mayes, MASA
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