



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

June 13, 2011

MEMORANDUM

TO: State Board of Education

FROM: John C. Austin, President and Michael P. Flanagan, Chairman

SUBJECT: Approval of State Board of Education/Michigan Department of Education Priorities for 2011-2012

The attached State Board of Education/Michigan Department of Education 2011-2012 Priorities document was developed based on the discussion at the Board's May 24, 2011, Retreat.

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the State Board of Education/Michigan Department of Education Priorities for 2011-2012, as attached to the Superintendent's memorandum dated June 13, 2011.

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**MICHIGAN STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
AND MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
REFORM PRIORITIES
2011-2012**

1. Improved Student Achievement

- Implement the Common Core Career and College Ready Standards.
- Adopt the Common Core Career and College Ready Assessments developed by the Smarter Balanced Assessment Consortium.
- Identify and support successful interventions for turning around low-performing schools.
- Support “any time, any place, any way, any pace” initiatives that help schools to personalize learning for every student.
- Increase access to quality distance and blended learning options.
- Support and remove barriers for every student to participate in early post-secondary learning opportunities, including dual enrollment, early college, advanced placement, technical and career learning.
- Continue to encourage the legislature to pass meaningful anti-bullying legislation, ideally calling on districts to adopt the State Board of Education’s model policy.
- Approve new cut scores for state assessments that reflect what students need to know to be career and college ready.

2. Performance-based System of Schools

- Develop policies that incent and reward school performance on education outcomes, including improved student achievement proficiency and growth and reduced need for post-secondary remediation.
- Continue to encourage the legislature to adopt a new school accreditation system that provides an honest assessment of where schools stand.

3. Performance-based Teaching

- Refashion teacher certification to reflect teachers’ ability to deliver the Career and College Ready Standards.
- Refashion teacher preparation leading to teacher certification including increased standards for admission into teacher preparation programs, admission into student teaching, and for recommendation for teacher licensure.
- Support the development and use of effective evaluations of teacher and administrator performance that are based on multiple measures and student growth.
- Revise continuing education requirements to align with individual teacher and administrator skill-building needs, school improvement goals, and increased student learning.
- Implement alternative routes to certification for teachers and for administrators.

- Implement a performance-based credential for excellent teachers to reward and afford satisfying careers for teachers as mentors and instructional leaders.
- Amend the Tenure Act to award tenure based on proficiency rather than years of teaching, ensure quality annual evaluation and to streamline the process to discharge ineffective teachers.

4. Early Childhood Education and Care

- Support the consolidation of early childhood education and care programs and resources into a single office of early childhood education and care, and continue to advocate for enhanced early childhood opportunities.