



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** July 19, 2018

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent   
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Early Literacy Institutes in August and September 2018

As the landscape of education continues to change, Michigan has declared it will embark on a journey to become a Top 10 Education State in the next 10 years. The Michigan Department of Education, MAISA, and GELN Early Literacy Task Force are excited to offer two K-3 Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy Institutes on August 6-9, 2018, and September 24-27, 2018. These four-day institutes offer deeper learning around the K-3 Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy and are intended for individuals or district teams made up of Literacy Coaches, Lead Teachers, Special Education Directors, English Learner Practitioners and Leaders, Building Administrators, Curriculum Directors, and Superintendents. Teams will be provided the content and resources needed to lead literacy work and professional learning around the K-3 Instructional Essentials in their regions. The Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy, K-3 can be found at [literacyessentials.org](http://literacyessentials.org). The professional learning opportunity will provide engaging dialogue around high-quality instruction in every classroom that brings to life the Top 10 in 10 plan goals. This professional learning aligns to goal #2: Implement, with strong district and building leadership, high-quality instruction in every classroom through a highly coherent, child-centered instructional model where students meet their self-determined academic and personal goals to their highest potential; as well as goal #3: Develop, support, and sustain a high-quality, prepared, and collaborative education workforce.

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • 833-633-5788

The financial investment for the district will be \$120 total per participant for all four days. If traveling 50+ miles one way and attending in Novi or Grand Rapids, your registration fee includes your hotel. To help schools plan for this professional learning, districts should consider using Title I, Part A, Title II, Part A or Section 31a for substitute costs and stipends for educators attending. A portion of 35a Additional Instructional Time Grant funding can also be used for professional learning.

Through participation in "K-3 Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy" participants will be able to:

- \* Define research and articulate reasons why research on literacy education should guide practice.
- \* Describe the purposes and meaning of the Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy: K to 3.
- \* Demonstrate an understanding of instruction consistent with each Essential Literacy Instructional Practice.
- \* Articulate connections between the K to 3 Essential Instructional Practices and multi-tiered systems of support.

Please find more information about "K-3 Essential Instructional Practices in Early Literacy" on the following link <https://www.smores.com/htdc8>.

If you have questions about this professional learning series, please contact Laural Triebel at [triebelle@michigan.gov](mailto:triebelle@michigan.gov) or Lisa Brown at [brownl30@michigan.gov](mailto:brownl30@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance