



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 13, 2020

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

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

SUBJECT: Reminder of Educator Evaluation Student Growth Requirements

Public Act 5 and Public Act 6 of 2019 amended [MCL 380.1249b](#) and [MCL 380.1249](#) to increase student growth and assessment to 40 percent of the evaluation rating. For core content areas in grades and subjects in which state assessments are administered with available student growth data, half of the portion required for student growth and assessment must be measured using state assessments.

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) guidance for the use of student growth from state assessment is limited to teachers in grades 4 through 8 teaching English language arts and/or math. For these teachers, the 40 percent portion required for student growth would be split:

- half based on state assessment student growth data; and
- half based on student growth from local education agency (LEA) selected assessments with multiple research-based growth measures or alternative assessments that are rigorous and comparable across schools.

For teachers who are not teaching English language arts and math in grades 4 through 8:

- the entire 40 percent portion required for student growth and assessment must be based on growth from multiple LEA-selected assessments with multiple research-based growth measures or alternative assessments that are rigorous and comparable across schools; and
- state assessment measures attributable to groups of educators may be chosen as one of the multiple measures used to determine student growth and assessment at the discretion of the local district or academy, although MDE recommends that the measures selected describe the impact of each teacher's instruction.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

For evaluations of administrators, MCL 380.1249b requires that the evaluations for school and district administrators who are regularly involved in instructional matters must include student growth and assessment data as 40 percent of the evaluation, and these data must include measures used within the evaluations of the teachers in their schools.

MDE received feedback from state educational organizations and numerous public education practitioners on important educator evaluation topics. In collaboration with these stakeholders, MDE has developed key components on which to advocate regarding current educator evaluation legislation. MDE has testified with the state legislature changes to state law that:

- would set the portion of student growth at 25 percent; and
- eliminate altogether the requirement to use student growth from state assessment in educator evaluation.

For the time being, districts and public school academies must adhere to current law, unless and until the legislature amends current law.

For more information regarding educator evaluations, and to learn about tools and resources for measuring student growth for LEA selected assessments and state assessments, please visit www.michigan.gov/mde-edevals or send questions to MDE-EdEvals@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance