



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 5, 2020

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

**FROM:** Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent  
P-20 System and Student Transitions 

**SUBJECT:** Changes to Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education

Effective February 13, 2020, there have been some recent changes to the Michigan Administrative Rules for Special Education [MARSE](#). These rule changes were promulgated under Section 44(1) of the [Administrative Procedures Act](#), MCL 24.244, which allows an amendment or rescission of a rule without public comment when the rule is obsolete or superseded, or changes are required to make the rule conform to a new or amended state or federal statute.

These changes included R 340.1721e(7), requiring a resident district to attend individualized education program (IEP) meetings when the operating district has been authorized to conduct subsequent IEPs.

After receiving and analyzing feedback from the field, the Michigan Department of Education recognizes this change did not meet the intent of removing the burden on a parent to request a resident district be invited to an IEP.

The Office of Special Education (OSE) will be revising this rule, to clarify the requirement is to invite the resident district, rather than for the resident district to be required to attend. In the interim, the district must invite the resident district when the operating district has been authorized to conduct subsequent IEP meetings.

This rule change aligns with Michigan's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan, Goal 7; is student-focused and supports the education system at all levels. It also further develops an innovative and cohesive state education agency that supports an aligned, coherent education system at all levels (state, intermediate school district, district, and school.)

For further information or questions, please contact the OSE Information Line at [mde-ose@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-ose@michigan.gov) or 1-888-320-8384.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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