



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 7, 2009

**MEMORANDUM**

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

FROM: Mike Flanagan, Superintendent of Public Instruction

SUBJECT: Participation in Michigan Youth in Government

Since 1948, Michigan Youth in Government has been providing a dynamic civics program for Michigan teens. It is the only youth civics program in the state that has the extended privileges of occupying the actual State House and Senate chambers of the Michigan Capitol Building. The program is modern and multifaceted. If you are looking for a hands-on civics experience for your students, then Michigan Youth in Government is worth considering. Highlights of the program include:

- Elections for youth leadership positions of Youth Governor, Lt. Governor, and Speaker of the House
- Legislative participation in the House and Senate
- National Issues Forum
- The option to become part of a debate team, or a mock trial team
- Opportunities to be lobbyists, committee chairs, clerks, or press members
- National participation in Mock Trial, Youth Governors Conference, and Conference on National Affairs for high school teens
- Youth Leadership training
- Civic engagement

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Educators today are looking for programs that will enhance and contribute to curriculum requirements, as well as address Core Democratic Values (CDVs). Michigan Youth in Government brings CDVs to life in a setting that your students will always remember. Some of the CDVs and Constitutional Principles encountered most frequently are:

- Justice
- Equality
- Diversity
- Truth
- Representative Government
- Individual Rights
- Separation of Powers

The conference dates for Middle School are November 22, 23, and 24, 2009. There are two choices for High School conferences, March 3-7 or March 24-28 of 2010. Visit the Michigan Youth in Government website at [www.myig.org](http://www.myig.org) or contact the state office at 517-639-4480 or email [myig@charter.net](mailto:myig@charter.net) if you are interested in more information.

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