STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 21, 2019

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 Support

SUBJECT: Michigan's Minecraft: Education Edition Pilot Year Three Application Available

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is excited to announce year three of the Michigan Minecraft: Education Edition(M:EE) Pilot program. The MDE will once again provide up to 175,000 free M:EE student and educator licenses for the 2019-20 school year. Eligible applicants include all local education agencies, intermediate school districts, public school academies, and career tech centers. The application for new license requests and renewals of licenses can be found at www.techplan.org/rdi/minecraft. The application is available March 21, 2019 and will close on May 21, 2019.

This version of the popular open world game, Minecraft, is specifically designed for education, containing features that make Minecraft more accessible and effective in a classroom or after-school program setting. This program aligns to the MDE's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan by enhancing access to effective technology tools that support deeper and personalized learning. The pilot project will not only provide access to, but will also support educator's ability to integrate this technology tool for student's deeper and personalized learning by providing free professional learning opportunities, such as:
- #GoOpen Michigan Professional Learning Community
- EduPaths Minecraft Online Modules
- EduPaths Massive Online Open Course (MOOC) – Coming Summer of 2019

The MDE and Microsoft team will deploy the free M:EE licenses to school districts by early June to ensure districts technology staff can assign M:EE licenses and deploy M:EE software during their summer technology maintenance window.

For more information regarding the application process please see http://www.techplan.org/rdi/minecraft. If you have any questions please email or call Amanda Stoel at stoela@michigan.gov or 517-241-3629.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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