



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 20, 2019

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

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

SUBJECT: Michigan Department of Education (MDE)
Fall 2019 Continuous Improvement Conference

Save the date for the Fall 2019 MDE Continuous Improvement Conference (formerly known as the School Improvement Conference) on November 18-19, 2019 at the Lansing Center in Lansing, Michigan. Under the theme *Meeting the Needs of the Whole Child through Systemic Thinking*, this conference will help districts and schools continue the journey to understanding the mindset shifts towards the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP). MICIP is a whole child district needs assessment leading to an integrated district continuous improvement process that will help Michigan districts think comprehensively about the entire range of student needs based on the [Whole Child](#) model.

Jim Harris, Ed.D., Associate Director of the West Virginia Autism Training Center at Marshall University, will be the keynote speaker on Monday, November 18, discussing *Supporting the Whole Child in a Complicated World*. Breakout sessions on this day will include Building Systems for Continuous Improvement, Deepening Learning, Providing Leadership, Utilizing Data, Thinking Systemically & Equitably, Supporting the Whole Child, Implementing Multi-Tiered System of Supports (MTSS), and Creating a Positive Climate & Collaborative Culture.

Michael Fullan, OC, a worldwide authority on educational reform, will address the conference theme on November 19. A prolific, award-winning author whose books have been published in many languages and an advisor to educational leaders in helping to achieve the moral purpose of all children learning, Fullan is the former Dean of the Ontario Institute for Studies in Education and Professor Emeritus of the University of Toronto.

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For conference details and registration visit [Fall 2019 MDE Continuous Improvement Conference](#). If you have specific questions pertaining to this conference, please contact Ben Boerkoel at boerkoelb@michigan.gov.

This conference aligns with Goals 2, 4, and 7 of the Top 10 in 10 to address the implementation of high-quality instruction, reduce the impact of high-risk factors on students, and require the MDE to be student-focused and support the education system at all levels.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance