



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: June 6, 2019

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: New Guidance for Academic Acceleration

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in partnership with various stakeholders, has created new [Guidance for Academic Acceleration](#) for districts to help ensure that all students are supported in reaching their highest academic potential. It may be necessary, in some cases, to accelerate the academic offerings to individual students. This document provides a framework that a district may choose to utilize in providing the most appropriate environment for students that may benefit from increased rigor in their individual academic offerings.

This initiative aligns with the Michigan Department of Education Top 10 in 10 Years Goal 2, which states, "Implement, with strong district and building leadership, high-quality instruction in every classroom through a highly coherent, child-centered instructional model where students meet their self-determined academic and personal goals to their highest potential." It also supports Michigan's work to implement its approved plan for the federal Every Student Succeeds Act by providing schools and districts with access to resources to help accommodate the needs of their gifted and talented students.

This document is intended to serve as guidance or as an example for the development of local policy and supports for acceleration of students to personalize their learning experience.

Questions on this guidance may be directed to Eric Lipinski at LipinskiE@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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