



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
SUPERINTENDENT OF  
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

May 10, 2012

**MEMORANDUM**

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

FROM: Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *Carol*

SUBJECT: District Best Practices Available in MI School Data for Internal Review

Section 22f of the State School Aid Act, 2011 PA 62, appropriates funding for the FY 2011-2012 school year to local school districts and public school academies meeting 4 out of 5 financial best practices as identified in the statute. One of the best practices is to provide a dashboard or report card with specific indicators. On June 30, 2011, the Michigan Department of Education published [guidance](#) which requires that the school board shall agree to provide a link on the district's home page to MI School Data. The MI School Data site was launched in summer 2011. It included the Best Practices dashboard data elements for graduation and dropout rates and elementary and middle school MEAP scores.

The remaining district Best Practices dashboard data elements are now available in MI School Data (<https://www.michigan.gov/mischooldata>) for internal review. This review window is for information only, and the data is embargoed from being released to the media or any outside party until the preview window closes. **The preview period will end on May 24, 2012, when the data will be available to the public.**

The Center for Educational Performance and Information has worked with the Michigan Department of Education and the Office of Retirement Services (ORS) to populate the data displays required under section 22f using existing data collections. A document containing documentation of the data sources and calculations used in these dashboard metrics is provided on the MI School Data site. Districts that report to ORS have not been required to submit any additional data to meet this requirement. Public school academies who do not report to ORS will be required to create and post on the academy's Budget Transparency Website a salary table that includes minimum, average and maximum pay level information for superintendent/chief executive officer, principals, and teachers for the 3 most recent school years for which the data is available. The salary table should look similar to the table on MI School Data site.

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT  
NANCY DANHOF – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER  
RICHARD ZEILE – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS  
DANIEL VARNER • EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909  
[www.michigan.gov/mde](http://www.michigan.gov/mde) • (517) 373-3324

You must be a MI School Data authorized user to review the Best Practices measures during the preview period. Please note:

- If you have an existing MI School Data (or Data for Student Success) user name and password, use these to access the site. However, you may need to contact your intermediate school district (ISD) or local user administrator to secure a "preview role" which is needed for access to the newly added dashboard data during the preview window. A listing of the authorized contact person(s) for each ISD is available on the MI School Data site.
- If you do not already have access to MI School Data, please contact your ISD or local user administrator to obtain a user name and password for the site and to request "preview" access to graduation and dropout rates.

Note that the site houses dashboard data at the state, district and school levels for many metrics. The site also provides a mechanism to obtain a direct link to the district's dashboard page. This URL is to be used to direct users from the district's web site to the district's dashboard on the MI School Data site. To obtain this link please do the following:

- Log-in to MI School Data at <https://www.michigan.gov/mischooldata> (the login button is on the upper right-hand corner of the home page) using your user name and password.
- Click on the "dashboard and School Report Card" link on the left-hand side.
- Click on the "Dashboard" tab in the center of the page.
- Once the district's data you have selected has appeared, scroll down to the bottom of the page. There you will find a button that says: "Link to this Report"
- Click on that link and cut and paste the link that will appear in a new box.

If you have any additional questions, please contact the MI School Data Help Desk at [helpdesk@misd.net](mailto:helpdesk@misd.net).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance