



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 3, 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 shifts toward the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP).

MICIP is a pathway for districts to improve student outcomes by assessing whole child needs to develop plans and coordinate funding. Benefits and efficiencies of MICIP include pre-populated data; an embedded root cause process; readily-available tools and protocols; and easily-accessible evidence-based strategies. As Continuous Improvement plans are built using MICIP, forms such as the Consolidated Application will be pre-populated. This creates one streamlined Comprehensive Needs Assessment process that will serve multiple purposes, resulting in a reduction in duplication of effort.

This conference aligns with Michigan's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan, 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 be student-focused and support the education system at all levels.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 833-633-5788

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, to discuss *Supporting the Whole Child in a Complicated World*. Breakout sessions on that 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, Order of Canada (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.

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.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance