



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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January 30, 2014

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D. 
Deputy Superintendent, Education Services

SUBJECT: Digital Learning Day 2014

Digital Learning Day is February 5th and once again Michigan is participating by providing high quality resources and encouraging schools to incorporate digital delivery into their instructional practice. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE), the Michigan Association of Computer Users in Learning (MACUL), and the Regional Educational Media Center Association of Michigan (REMCAM), have joined together to spread the message that every day is digital learning day and declare 2014 the Year of the Digital Learner. Events in 2014 can be found on the MACUL web site, <http://www.macul.org/otherevents/year-of-the-digital-learner/>.

Highlighting this year's resources is the Michigan eLibrary (MeL), <http://mel.org>, a service of the Library of Michigan. MeL has long served Michigan teachers, students, parents, and schools as their digital library containing eResources. In 2013, new content was added to the already robust line-up of eResources that PreK-12 educators use in their classrooms. Early literacy resources such as eBooks and inter-actives are available to engage and stimulate early learners. Middle and high school teachers and their students will find reliable eResources which include full-text information from magazines, journals and news, opposing viewpoints with supporting content, countries and cultures of the world, practice tests for skills building in core subject areas plus practice for college entrance exams, and more to enhance and build on the curriculum. MeL also has a special resource just for teachers: The Michigan Online Resources for Educators (M.O.R.E.), <http://more.mel.org>. Teachers can find thousands of curricular-based materials such as lesson plans, inter-actives, videos, assessments, and more that are aligned to state and national standards.

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To assist Michigan schools with online course delivery, the REMC Association of Michigan provides over eighty online learning lessons, units, and courses for grades 3 through Adult, through the REMC Michigan Learns Online Moodle Hub. Those interested can search for courses at www.milearnsonline.org. The online learning material can be reviewed and downloaded to a local district's Moodle site. In addition to the online learning courses, Michigan Learns Online (MLO) houses support materials for parents, students, and educators that will help them successfully participate in an online learning environment. Contact your REMC/RESA or ISD Technology Director to find out more about the REMC MLO Moodle Hub by going to www.remc.org to find contact information.

Michigan was the first state to require students to have an online learning experience before graduation. Resources provided by our partners support our belief that all students will benefit from continued integration of technology for both instruction and assessment. For additional information on The Year of the Digital Learner, contact Barb Fardell at the Michigan Department of Education, (fardellb@michigan.gov). Deb Biggs Thomas (BiggsThomasD@michigan.gov), Michigan eLibrary & Outreach Coordinator, can answer any questions you may have about MeL. Information on national activities can be found at <http://www.digitallearningday.org/>.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance