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MDE to Seek Second-Round Input through Feedback Forums

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has announced a set of Feedback Forums in partnership with intermediate school districts across Michigan. The public forums, entitled “Michigan’s Move to the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA),” are designed to gather input from educators, advocates, parents, students, and the public regarding specific proposed components of the nation’s new federal education law (see [ESSA Notes 10-27-16](#)).

The feedback gathered will inform Michigan’s final ESSA plan, which will guide how Michigan leverages federal funding to make Michigan a Top 10 education state in the next 10 years. Michigan’s final plan will be submitted to the U.S. Department of Education in early March 2017.

Wayne RESA to Host Kick-Off Event

The series of public engagements kicks off with a public forum and live webcast on **Tuesday, November 29, 2016**, from **9:00 AM to 3:15 PM** at Wayne RESA in Wayne County. Participants will be introduced to Michigan’s Top 10 in 10 initiative and learn how ESSA can be leveraged to support the vision. They will also hear presentations regarding specific ESSA draft recommendations related to:

- Title program support to students and schools
- Equitable access to high-quality educators
- School and district accountability
- State assessment

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ESSA FACTS

Local education agencies (LEAs) must describe how their districts will address any disparities that result in low-income and minority students being taught at higher rates than other students by ineffective, out of field or inexperienced teachers.

The kick-off event will be live streamed through [MI Streamnet](#) (<http://mistreamnet.org>), allowing participants across the state to join in from their personal computers or devices. The event also offers videoconferencing opportunities for other districts. (Interested districts can contact Steven Michael at Wayne RESA.)

All participants (on-site and remote) will have an opportunity to ask questions and provide feedback during the event, and afterwards through an online survey. On-site participants will also have the option to participate in small focus groups with presenters to provide more in-depth feedback on specific components of the plan.

[Register online for Wayne RESA event](#)

Feedback Forum Schedule

Details and registration links for all scheduled events below can be found on the [ESSA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/essa).

- **WAYNE RESA:** [Register Online](#)
November 29, 2016, 9:00 AM -3:15 PM
- **SAGINAW ISD:** [Register online](#)
December 1, 2016, 9:00 AM – Noon
- **EASTERN UP ISD:** [Register online](#)
December 1, 2016, 6:00 –8:00 PM – Also available at satellite sites across the UP. See registration form for details.
- **CLARE/GLADWIN RESD:** [Register online](#)
December 2, 2016, 1:00 – 3:00 PM
- **INGHAM ISD:** [Register online](#)
December 15, 2016, 9:00 AM –Noon

- **KENT ISD:** [Register online](#)
December 16, 2016, 9:00 – 11:00 AM
- **JACKSON ISD:** [Register online](#)
December 19, 2016, 1:30 – 3:30 PM

Can't Make it To a Feedback Forum?

Individuals and organizations wishing to offer input will have additional opportunities to provide feedback. See the [Q & A on page 3](#).

State Board of Education ESSA Update

The MDE staff are scheduled to provide ESSA updates to the Michigan State Board of Education at its upcoming meeting on November 15, 2016. The presentation will provide an overview of how Michigan is addressing the “whole child” through ESSA, outlining opportunities in ESSA to leverage the funds, activities, and data to provide supports to students and schools across a broad range of identified needs. The board will learn how this approach supports and aligns the ESSA work and Michigan’s plan to become a Top 10 State within 10 Years by assuring a unified vision for best practices and a plan to provide assistance to schools that is responsive to the needs of the state’s students, educators, and job providers.

The public is invited to attend the meeting or tune in online via the [State Board of Education web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/SBE).

Michigan Submits Comments on 'Supplement, Not Supplant'

On November 7, 2016, the MDE provided comments to the U.S. Department of Education (ED) regarding the proposed regulations for the “supplement, not supplant” requirement under Title I of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act of 1965 as amended by the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA).

In the letter to ED, State Superintendent Brian Whiston brought forward seven issues with the proposed regulations, then referred to the [comments submitted by Council of Chief State School Officers \(CCSSO\)](#), which provided detailed examples of each issue Michigan raised.

Review the [MDE's comments on the Federal Register](https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ED-2016-OESE-0056-3444) (https://www.regulations.gov/document?D=ED-2016-OESE-0056-3444).

Questions from the Field

I can't attend any of the scheduled Feedback Forums for November and December. How can I learn more and submit my thoughts?

Individuals and groups can provide feedback in several ways.

- The all-day Feedback Forum in Wayne County will be recorded and posted to the ESSA web page sometime during the first week of December.
- Action Team recommendations will be posted in November on the [ESSA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/essa), along with an online survey to collect feedback.
- Ask questions, provide feedback, or request more information by emailing MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov.

What's Happening Now

- The Michigan **ESSA Parent Survey** will remain available through November 18, 2016, on the [Michigan ESSA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/essa). Parent organizations and school leaders are also encouraged to invite parents in their networks to participate.
- The MDE has launched a series of Feedback Forums to invite a second round of stakeholder input on Michigan's Move to the Every Student Succeeds Act. Visit the [ESSA web page](#) (www.michigan.gov/essa) to register for an event in your region.