



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 22, 2020

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports 

SUBJECT: COVID-19 Education Survey Launch

Since March 2020, schools and districts across the state have experienced tremendous disruption due to the outbreak of the COVID-19 pandemic. Subsequently, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) requested that the Education Policy Innovation Collaborative (EPIC) at Michigan State University work in partnership with MDE and the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) to begin to understand the impacts of the pandemic on schools, educators, and students.

Educator voice is critical to understanding the myriad ways that COVID-19 is shaping how districts and schools are providing instruction and serving their students and communities. Therefore, EPIC has begun surveying all K-12 teachers, principals, and district superintendents about their perspectives on how the pandemic has affected their work with students and staff in their schools and districts. Superintendents and principals will receive communication from EPIC, and teachers will be contacted via their emails from the Michigan Online Educator Certification System (MOECS).

MDE encourages educators to participate in the voluntary survey and asks that superintendents complete the surveys themselves and forward the email with the survey link to their principals and teachers with encouragement to respond.

The survey will take approximately 15 minutes and responses to the survey will be kept strictly confidential. All responses will be summarized in a way that ensures individuals and schools cannot be identified. The department will use these results to help shape its efforts to support districts, schools, and educators during this difficult time.

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The findings from this survey will also be used to produce reports for Michigan policymakers and practitioners, policy briefs, journal articles, and presentations at academic conferences.

If you have questions about this survey, please contact Emily Mohr, EPIC managing director, at emohr@msu.edu.

Thank you for your time and consideration of this request in this challenging year.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors