



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 19, 2017

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

FROM: Sheila A. Alles, Chief Deputy Superintendent 

SUBJECT: Michigan Department of Education (MDE) Fall School Improvement Conference: *Successfully Supporting the Whole Child in the Face of Poverty*

The MDE is pleased to announce that [Dr. Steve Perry](#), the principal of Capital Preparatory Magnet School, author and Education Contributor for CNN and MSNBC, will be our keynote speaker for the [Fall School Improvement Conference](#) on November 20, 2017 at the Lansing Center. The word most often used to describe Dr. Perry is passionate. His authenticity is a welcomed addition to any discussion rooted in improving children's lives and the community. Featured in *CNN's Black in America* series, Dr. Perry is an innovative voice in education today.

Informational and hands-on breakout sessions will be offered by schools, districts, ISDs, the MDE and AdvancED Michigan. Additionally, focus groups will be available on November 20, 2017 to provide input for the reinventing of School Improvement in Michigan.

On November 21, 2017, [Dr. John Almarode](#), currently from James Madison University Center for STEM Education Outreach, will present "Teaching Children in Poverty: What Works Best in Teaching and Learning." Dr. Almarode continues the focus on how to engage students living in poverty that Dr. Eric Jensen shared with Michigan last fall. Dr. John Almarode has worked with schools, classrooms, and teachers around the world.

Multi-Tiered System of Support (MTSS) presentations will be shared with conference attendees during the second day of the conference.

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If you have specific questions pertaining to this conference, please contact Diane Joslin-Gould at Joslin-GouldD@michigan.gov. Conference registration and information is available through the Michigan Association of School Administrators (MASA) website at www.gomasa.org.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance