



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 30, 2018

TO: Local and Intermediate School District (ISD) Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent 
P-20 System & Student Transitions

SUBJECT: Clarification on Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) Professional Development Set-Aside Fund for Fiscal Year 2018-19

[Public Act 265 of 2018, the State School Aid Act, Section 32d\(24\)](#) includes the following: **From the funds allocated under subsection (1), there is allocated an amount not to exceed \$1,000,000.00 For payments to intermediate districts or consortia of intermediate districts for professional development for educators in programs implements new curricula in 2019-2020.**

Funds awarded under this new section may be used both to purchase curriculum and carryout formal training in the curriculum for GSRP educators prior to the start of the 2019-2020 program year.

GSRP staff will be developing procedures for awarding funds to Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) that engage in a process to choose a new comprehensive curriculum for implementation in Great Start Readiness Program (GSRP) classrooms in 2019-2020. The curriculum chosen must be from the approved list posted by the department within the GSRP Implementation Manual. The list currently includes HighScope Curriculum, Creative Curriculum, Tools of the Mind, Connect4Learning, Montessori, the Project Approach, and Reggio Emilia. ISDs who have an interest in exploring a curriculum change could begin to assemble a stakeholder group, develop their review process, and set timelines early in the 2018/19 grant year.

In addition, [Public Act 265 of 2018 provided for under Section 32d\(23\)](#): **The department shall implement a process to evaluate and approve age-appropriate educational curricula that are in compliance with the early childhood standards of quality for prekindergarten children adopted by the state board.**

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Michigan Department of Education is in the process of finalizing a curriculum review process and will issue an invitation to publishers to submit their comprehensive Pre-K curriculum for review early this fall. The review process will take several months to complete, and announcements regarding any additions to the approved curriculum list are planned for mid-March 2019. ISD stakeholder groups will have time to review any curricula added to the approved list before the application for funding is released.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance