



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

BRIAN J. WHISTON  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** March 31, 2016

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

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

**SUBJECT:** Important M-STEP Resources to Provide Parents

As the testing season approaches, schools and teachers will start to get questions regarding the upcoming Spring 2016 M-STEP. Below is the link to a parent letter from State Superintendent Brian Whiston for you to distribute to parents prior to or during student testing. This letter can assist in answering questions that parents may have—including requests to allow their children to “opt out” of testing. It also contains information on last week’s Michigan House of Representatives action.

Click here for [Superintendent Brian Whiston’s M-STEP Parent letter](#). The letter can also be found on the Michigan Department of Education’s M-STEP web page at [www.mi.gov/mstep](http://www.mi.gov/mstep).

If you have questions, please contact the Office of Standards and Assessment at 877-560-8378 or [baa@michigan.gov](mailto:baa@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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