



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 21, 2021

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

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

SUBJECT: MDHHS Guidance to Local School Districts from Director Elizabeth Hertel - MEMO #COVID-19-179

So much of what Michigan schools and school districts—including traditional public school districts, public school academies, and nonpublic schools—do in response to the global COVID-19 pandemic is directed by guidance provided by the public health experts at the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS).

In the last few weeks, the state of Michigan has led the nation in the number of recent COVID-19 cases.

I am working with MDHHS Director Elizabeth Hertel to help inform school leaders with the most up-to-date guidance regarding coronavirus mitigation strategies. Director Hertel has developed and is sharing this [memo](#) to help schools address the spread of the COVID-19 virus and its variants. **Please pay special attention to the broad offer of antigen testing and the changed data collection requirements associated therewith.**

With this MDHHS guidance, we can better protect the health, safety, and welfare of our students, educators, staff, and communities. Our collective goal is to be able to continue providing the best possible education for our children during the pandemic, while following all of the necessary public health protocols to lower the spread of COVID-19.

Thank you for your attention to Director Hertel's memo and your continued leadership during this challenging moment.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

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