



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


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**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** June 13, 2019

**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 Support

**SUBJECT:** Upcoming Transition to the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP)

In support of Michigan's plan to become a Top 10 education state in 10 years, the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has been engaged in an effort to redesign the way we support districts in delivering a high-quality whole-child focused education. To do that, we need to change our *processes* to be in alignment with our *promises* of our whole child education vision. The result is MICIP, the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process. The purpose of this memo is to provide a high-level overview of this approach and will be followed in the coming months with more detailed communications and trainings.

MICIP is a whole child district needs assessment leading to an integrated district continuous improvement process that will help Michigan districts think comprehensively about the entire range of student needs based on the [Whole Child](#) model.

The MDE will be replacing ASSIST, the platform formerly used to complete and collect school and district improvement plans, with the MICIP platform. However, it is important to note that MICIP is not simply an update of the former school/district improvement process and platform. Rather, it is a redesigned approach to help districts and schools think more comprehensively and strategically about continuous improvement. While many of the activities formerly covered by school/district improvement and ASSIST will be incorporated into MICIP, it is a larger endeavor.

The Michigan Department of Education is working with the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) and the Michigan Collaborative Hub to co-create the MICIP platform.

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### *Timeline for Rollout and Transition*

The MDE is approaching the transition to MICIP in two cycles: professional learning regarding shifts in mindset and processes, followed by a shift in platform.

#### School year 2019-2020:

- Training on MICIP Mindset and MICIP Processes will be made available to ISDs, local districts, and schools.
- More information and a detailed training schedule will follow; check here [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-81351\\_92325---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-81351_92325---,00.html) for more information as well as future Thursday Communications. The MDE is working right now with a host of partners to develop the professional learning materials and delivery mechanisms for ISDs, districts, and schools and will begin rolling those out in Fall 2019.
- Districts and schools will continue to use the ASSIST platform to submit all plans and other required materials during 2019-2020 for the 2020-2021 school year. Timelines and deadlines remain consistent with previous years; look for more detailed communication from the Office of Educational Supports over the coming months.
- Districts and schools may incorporate mindset and processes shifts into their planning process during the 2019-2020 school year even though the platform remains the same.

#### School Year 2020-2021:

- The MICIP Platform will replace the ASSIST platform as the technical solution to implement the mindset and processes of MICIP.
- Training on the platform will begin in Fall 2020, with the official launch of the platform occurring at the Fall Continuous Improvement Conference (formerly known as the School Improvement Conference) in October 2020.
- As schools and districts begin planning for the 2021-2022 school year, they will do it using the MICIP mindset and processes and will use the MICIP platform to assess needs, create plans, and identify funding sources.

Districts and schools should finish the 2018-2019 school year as planned, submitting all required plans and applications as instructed.

Further communications regarding professional learning, as well as more detailed transition plan information will be forthcoming.

Email the MDE with questions at [mde-micip@michigan.gov](mailto:mde-micip@michigan.gov), or directly to Theresa Nugent (MICIP Lead) at [nugentt@michigan.gov](mailto:nugentt@michigan.gov).

Visit the MICIP webpage at [https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-81351\\_92325---,00.html](https://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-81351_92325---,00.html).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance