

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

BRIAN J. WHISTON STATE SUPERINTENDENT

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: January 4, 2018

**TO:**Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents<br/>Public School Academy Directors

X. XIII

FROM: Shelia A. Alles Chief Deputy Superintendent

## **SUBJECT:** Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students (MITECS)

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is excited to announce the Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Student (MITECS) which replaces the 2009 Michigan Educational Technology Standards for Students (METS-S). A group of technology and education stakeholders convened beginning in June 2017 to review the METS-S and recommend moving forward with the MITECS.

Due to the elimination of the Enhancing Education Through Technology (E2T2) grant, districts are no longer required to assess 8<sup>th</sup> grade students on technology literacy. While districts are no longer required to ensure via assessment that students can appropriately use technology, it is imperative that schools adequately prepare graduates to be successful in an ever-evolving digital world.

The MITECS reflect the approach many schools are already taking – integrating technology competencies into learning – so that students cultivate technology competencies no matter the subject. The integration of the MITECS more directly supports Michigan's content standards, career and college readiness, and deeper learning. The MITECS are aligned to the Top 10 in 10 focus area of Learner-Centered Supports, reflecting a learner-driven approach that empowers students to be active participants in determining their educational pursuits. These new competencies are adapted from and aligned to the 2016 International Society of Technology in Education (ISTE) Standards for Students.

## STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

JOHN C. AUSTIN – PRESIDENT • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – VICE PRESIDENT MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • PAMELA PUGH – TREASURER LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY – NASBE DELEGATE • KATHLEEN N. STRAUS EILEEN LAPPIN WEISER • RICHARD ZEILE Page 2 January 4, 2018

The MDE has developed a toolkit to facilitate the rollout of the MITECS at the local level. For more information regarding the MITECS and to access the toolkit, see <u>http://www.techplan.org/mitecs/</u>. If you have any questions please email or call Ann-Marie Mapes, Education Technology Consultant in the Educational Technology Unit with the Office of P-20 Data, Information, and Research Management at (517) 335-2775.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance