STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 20, 2020

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *Venessa*
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: CORRECTION TO MEMO #031-20

UPDATED SUBJECT LINE: Michigan ArcGIS Online United States School Competition 2020, Software, and Professional Learning

Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is pleased to announce the ArcGIS Online United States Competition 2020, in which students create and share maps about their home states. ArcGIS is a geographic information system (GIS) that depicts data geographically. GIS-based projects provide for integrated learning experiences across content areas and facilitate collaboration to tackle local and global challenges. Data manipulation and visualization are key components of the newly adopted [Michigan K-12 Computer Science Standards](#) core concept of Data and Analysis, as well as Computational Thinking within the [Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students (MITECS)](#).

Competition
The competition is open to students in both middle school and high school who can analyze, interpret, and present data via an ArcGIS online presentation, web application, or story map. To participate, a school must complete an entry form by March 6, 2020. A school may submit up to five projects to the competition website. Submissions must be received no later than May 11, 2020. A group of Michigan educators and GIS professionals will judge the submissions and select five submissions each from middle and high school to send to Esri for inclusion in the national competition. Michigan's 10 winning projects will each receive $100. A national winner will be selected for both middle school and high school, with both projects earning a trip to the 2020 Esri Education Conference in San Diego. The 2019 national high school winner was from Monroe High School in Monroe, Michigan, evidence that Michigan students can compete nationally and successfully.

Schools may also participate in the "Early Mentoring" option. In this scenario, entries are submitted to the state leadership group and go to state judges for review and comment (but not scoring), so students may benefit from learned guidance. Early mentoring sign-up forms must be received from schools by March 20, 2020. A school may submit up to 10 Early Mentoring projects to the competition website. Competition details, rubric, and links to forms are available at https://bit.ly/2zsTv16.

<u>Software</u>
ArcGIS software is freely available for K-12 instructional use from Esri. To learn more about how to access this free software, go to http://www.esri.com/connected. Instructional materials posted on Esri's website can introduce students to web mapping through topics such as population dynamics, water pollution, marine debris, and resource consumption and wealth. GeoInquiries are activities with standards-based content about Earth Science, Government, Human Geography, U.S. History, American Literature, Environmental Science, Mathematics, and Upper Elementary Science and Social Studies. Also available on Esri's website is GIS professional learning for educators and resources on creation or updating of curriculum using GIS software.

<u>Professional Learning</u>
Upcoming GIS course for Educators in Southeast Michigan (Wayne RESA): 1574 Geographic Information Systems (GIS) in the Classroom
The Marshal Plan for Talent - Geospatial Technologies Talent Consortium Project Professional Development Team works with teachers, students and GIS Professionals to learn about Geographic Information Systems skills and resources to integrate local data into curriculum and place-based learning for classroom instruction. This is the first in a series, including two face-to-face sessions and several on-line courses. The course includes two face-to-face sessions (Saturday, February 29, 2020 and Saturday, April 18, 2020 at Wayne RESA), with a series of online modules and three 60-minute online evening support sessions in the interim. *GIS in the Classroom* is focused on the tools and resources available for map building, data collection, story mapping, and ArcGIS account set up. We will also look at additional access to professional GIS training for both teachers and students.

To register, go to: https://www.solutionwhere.com/WW/wayneresa/Default.aspx.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance