



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: May 31, 2018

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

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

SUBJECT: Minecraft: Education Edition Licensing Pilot Program – Summer Edition

Michigan students can [Play, Craft, and Learn](#) this summer with a Minecraft: Education Edition (M:EE) license from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), Office of Systems, Evaluation, and Technology (OSET) M:EE pilot program. This opportunity is offered to school districts operating a summer program, where students will have access to a district device that meets the [required specifications](#). Licenses are free for both students and educators. To apply for a summer program license, visit: <http://www.techplan.org/rdi/minecraft/>.

The M:EE is a special version of the game developed specifically for educational use. Minecraft engages and empowers students, builds 21st century skills like communication and collaboration, and develops new literacies like coding. For educators, Minecraft offers special features like tutorials and lessons across subject areas, classroom management tools, and secure sign-in. Because of its open learning environment, Minecraft works across grade levels and subject areas. Educators can learn more over the summer with Minecraft: The Building Blocks in [EduPaths](#), a free online M:EE training course. [Minecraft: Building Blocks](#) is designed to take an educator who has very little experience with Minecraft through the fundamentals of the game all the way through the first lesson.

The M:EE pilot program supports Goal #2, Strategies 2.6 and 2.7 of Michigan's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan by engaging students in well-rounded learning experiences in Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics (STEM), language, business, culture, and creativity, as well as providing access to personalized learning technologies that support and enhance those learning experiences. This project also provides students an opportunity to practice and master [Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students](#) (MITECS).

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If you have questions please email Amanda Stoel, Departmental Analyst in the Educational Technology Unit with the OSET at stoela@michigan.gov or call 517-241-3629.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance