



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 11, 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: Michigan's Minecraft: Education Edition – Student Landmark Challenge Winner

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) is honored to announce the first winner of the Michigan Minecraft: Education Edition Landmark Challenge. They are Will, Noah, and Romeo from Ms. Lilly's sixth grade class at Springbrook Middle School, Adrian Public Schools. These students and their classmates will receive a Michigan M:EE SWAG Bag filled with classroom goodies and will have the opportunity to Skype with the Microsoft Minecraft: Education Edition Programmers later this month. These students beat out 150 other entries submitted through a review process by their peers. Entries ranged from the Mackinaw Bridge to the Tawas Point Lighthouse. A list of student landmark entries and a presentation of the top twelve landmarks can be found at www.techplan.org/rdi/minecraft.

This activity supports the MDE Top 10 in 10 strategic plan by enhancing access to effective technology tools that support deeper and personalized learning. Eric Strommer, an educator from Flint Community Schools shared, *"I knew there were students who were really excited about Minecraft but this high level of engagement and cooperation, honestly, is kind of surprising me."*

For more information regarding the Michigan M:EE pilot, the M:EE application, or the next challenge please see <http://www.techplan.org/rdi/minecraft>. If you have any questions please contact Amanda Stoel at stoela@michigan.gov or 517-241-3629.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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