



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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May 19, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local Educational Agency Superintendents, Intermediate School Superintendents, and Public School Academy Directors

FROM: Carol L. Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *CLW*

SUBJECT: U. S. Department of Education Data Requirements for Educational Technology Related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act 2009, Title II, Part D

For several years, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) has requested that the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) collect four data elements on educational technology in the classroom:

- Integrated Technology Status
- Instructional Computers
- Personnel Skilled in Technology
- 8th Grade Technology Literacy

To date, MDE has collected only the 8th Grade Technology Literacy figures from the state's Local School Districts and Public School Academies. This memo is to inform you that the other elements are now being required by USDOE. Your district will be required to report them by June 30, 2009.

Through preliminary guidance received on May 6, 2009, related to the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA), the USED is making mandatory the reporting of each element in order to receive Title II, Part D, funding under ARRA. Formal guidance reflecting this requirement is expected in June 2009, but we wanted to provide you with as much lead time as possible so that your district will be able to report this data to the state in collections that already exist. The state reporting deadline for each element is June 30, 2009.

Here is how we intend to satisfy the USED's collection and reporting requirements:

Integrated Technology Status

This element relates to the integration of technology into curricula and instruction. Because Michigan requires that LEAs explain their technology integration efforts in the technology plans submitted to MDE for approval, for USED reporting purposes, a state-approved local district technology plan equates to "yes, fully integrated." If your district had a state-approved technology plan on file with MDE as of June 30, 2008 (last year), your district will be reported as "yes, fully integrated," and no additional data reporting is needed. To find the list of districts that had approved technology plans as of June 30, 2008, please visit www.TechPlan.org.

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Instructional Computers

This element collects (1) the number of instructional computers in the school building and (2) the Internet connectivity of each instructional computer. This requires three fields to be added to the School Infrastructure Database (SID), maintained by the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), which has a June 30, 2009, submission date.

- (45) *Instructional Computers with High Speed Internet Access.* Indicate the number of instructional computers with high speed connectivity speeds greater than 56K Internet access that are available to students located within the school/facility.
- (46) *Instructional Computers with Dial-Up Internet Access.* Indicate the number of instructional computers with dial-up connectivity speeds of 56K Internet access that are available to students located within the school/facility.
- (47) *Instructional Computers without Internet Access.* Indicate the number of instructional computers without Internet access that are available to students located within the school/facility.

Instructional computers are defined as those “located within the school/facility, e.g., in classrooms, media centers, and moved from one classroom to another on media carts...that are available to students. Computers include desktops and laptops that are available to students for instructional purposes. Do not include handheld devices such as personal digital assistants or peripherals such as printers.”

Personnel Skilled in Technology

This element seeks the number of instructional personnel assessed and deemed skilled in the use of technology within the LEA. Michigan does not require or provide a technology skill assessment for instructional staff, but the USED is requiring us to report the data we can collect from districts.

An online entry form has been added to the Registry of Educational Professionals (REP):

- (1) Of the number of instructional staff members reported in the REP on December 1, 2008, how many were assessed to determine their skill level in the use of technology?
- (2) Of those assessed, how many instructional staff members were deemed to be skilled in the use of technology?

The REP submission to facilitate the reporting of the data is June 30, 2009.

Assessment of technology skills can take multiple forms, including observation (e.g., if instructional personnel have been observed demonstrating technology skills, that observation could be considered an assessment).

8th Grade Technology Literacy

MDE will continue to use the Michigan Electronic Grants System (MEGS) to collect LEA certification related to 8th Grade Technology Literacy. For a State definition of 8th Grade Technology Literacy, please visit www.TechPlan.org and refer to the 6-8th grade Michigan Educational Technology Standards.

In MEGS, we ask that you certify the number of students you have assessed in the FY 2008-2009 school year and the number (not the percentage) of students you have deemed to be technologically literate. A field was added last year to indicate how the technology literacy was determined and it will be required again this year (i.e., teacher observation, portfolio, District/ISD developed multiple choice exam, etc.)

Conclusion

We realize the added work these collections take, but the President and the United States Congress have provided \$919,000,000 in funding for educational technology over the next two years. In Michigan, we insure that every district benefits from these funds flowing into our state through our formula grant process, which amounts to 2.7 times the regular annual allocation. To keep these funds flowing, we need your best effort to provide the four data elements required under ARRA.

For assistance with technology planning, visit <http://techplan.org>. MDE and CEPI have scheduled a WebEx conference call on Friday, May 29, 2009, at 8:30 a.m., to answer questions about the new data elements:

Telephone conference: #1-877-336-1831 Access code: 1517765

Web meeting address:

<https://www.webmeeting.att.com> (First time users, please download client software at this web address)

Meeting number: 8773361831

Access code: 1517765

For all other questions concerning the data requirement, please contact Bruce Umpstead (umpsteadb@michigan.gov), Ron Faulds (fauldsr@michigan.gov), or Barb Fardell (fardellb@michigan.gov), or by telephone at 517.335.2957.

