

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

BRIAN J. WHISTON STATE SUPERINTENDENT

RICK SNYDER GOVERNOR

## MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 16, 2017

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

FROM: Brian J. Whiston State Superintendent

**SUBJECT:** Notification of Public Comment Period for Michigan's Consolidated Plan Under the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA)

The Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA) was signed into federal law on December 10, 2015, replacing the No Child Left Behind Act. This law represents a shift from broad federal oversight of primary and secondary education to greater flexibility and decision-making at the state and local levels. ESSA requires states to develop plans that address standards, assessments, school and district accountability, and special help for struggling schools.

Following months of public input, the Michigan Department of Education on Tuesday released its full draft plan for meeting the requirements of ESSA. The draft plan was detailed at the February 14, 2017 State Board of Education meeting.

Michigan's draft ESSA plan and supporting documents are available for review at: <u>www.michigan.gov/essa</u>. Input will continue to be incorporated until the submission of Michigan's final plan to the U.S. Department of Education in April.

Public comment will be accepted on the draft plan through **Thursday**, **March 16**, **2017 at 5:00 p.m.** To read and comment on the proposed plan, go to: <u>www.michigan.gov/essa</u>.

It is requested that statements reflecting the official position of an association or organization be submitted on official letterhead, indicating the areas of support or concern related to specific aspects of the plan.

cc: Education Alliance of Michigan

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