



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



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SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

October 16, 2009

MEMORANDUM

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors and Authorizers
Public School Principals
Nonpublic School Administrators

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Please Encourage Students to Do Their Best on the MEAP Writing Field Test

On Thursday, October 22, 2009, a new version of the Michigan Educational Assessment Program (MEAP) writing assessment will be field tested. While writing scores will not be returned to schools or students this fall, there are several reasons to encourage your students to do their best on this new test. Some of them are:

- * Students will be more familiar with the new formats if they do their best.
- * Schools and teachers will be more familiar with the new formats if students do their best.
- * The quality of the writing test in Fall 2010 will be increased.

In addition, we have purposely kept the length of the field test to a minimum. Each student will only be asked to complete one essay. Different students will get different essays so that we can field test many possible prompts for grades 4 and 7.

Again, we ask for your assistance in encouraging 4th and 7th grade students to do their best on the Fall 2009 MEAP writing field test for the reasons explained above.

If you have questions, please feel free to contact us at 1-877-560-8378 or at oeaa@michigan.gov.

cc: William Mayes, MASA
David Martell, MSBO
Dan Quisenberry, MAPSA
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