



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 30, 2020

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

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

SUBJECT: School and District Improvement Plan Reporting Requirements Flexibility
for the 2020-21 School Year

This memo is to communicate to districts some flexibility regarding requirements for district improvement plans (DIPs), single building district improvement plans (SBDIPs), and school improvement plans (SIPs) for 2020-21. We understand that many districts and schools are working hard to figure out both short- and long-term plans to support their students and staff. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) wants to provide districts with flexibility to reassess local planning as necessary.

Due to the mandated school closures and the implementation of [Continuity of Learning and Covid-19 Response Plans](#) as required by [Executive Order 2020-35](#), MDE has determined that the 2019-20 DIPs, SBDIPs, and SIPs, as they exist in [ASSIST](#), will meet the 2020-21 [state](#) (Michigan Revised School Code Section 380.1277) and [federal](#) (Every Student Succeeds Act, Section 1112) requirements for local educational agencies (LEAs). As a result of this determination, MDE has modified the 2020-21 reporting for districts in the following ways:

- Schools and districts will not be required to complete and submit an updated or new DIP, SBDIP, or SIP in ASSIST for the 2020-21 school year.
- The 2019-20 SBDIPS and DIPs will be used for the approval of the 2020-21 consolidated application for federal Title funds. If necessary, the 2019-20 DIP or SBDIP may be revised up until September 30, 2020. Consolidated applications and budgets should reflect any revised plan updates.

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- Title I recipient schools are not required to complete and submit an updated or new targeted assistance (TA) or schoolwide (SW) diagnostic for the 2020-21 school year. Title I recipient schools may choose to update the 2019-20 TA or SW diagnostic before September 1, 2020.
- Reporting dates for the 2020-21 school year remain the same, but with the existence of a 2019-20 DIP, SBDIP, and SIP in ASSIST, the school and/or district has already met the plan submission deadlines and no further action is required.
- Newly constituted schools that did not complete a SIP for the 2019-20 school year are not required to submit one for the 2020-21 school year. Instead, those schools may submit their district continuity of learning/COVID-19 response plans in their stead. That plan does not need to be submitted in ASSIST.

Please note that districts and schools are allowed to modify their plans in ASSIST, if desired, and if it makes sense for their local needs.

Full transition to the Michigan Integrated Continuous Improvement Process (MICIP) is still planned for the winter of the 2020-21 school year, pending the feasibility of the transition pending statewide circumstances. As part of that transition, MDE will continue to provide districts and schools with options for demonstrating program evaluation. Districts may use either the program evaluation tool (PET) in ASSIST or another process of their choosing as evidence of implementing program evaluation.

If a district completed a PET in ASSIST in 2019-20, the PET will also meet the 2020-21 requirements. If a district used another process for evaluating a program, it must be able to produce evidence of such upon request from MDE staff, but a description of the process or the evaluation results will not need to be officially submitted.

Additional questions or concerns should be directed to the following MDE staff:

- Program evaluation tool or district improvement plans: Fred Williams, williamsf3@michigan.gov
- School improvement plans: Bill Witt, wittb1@michigan.gov
- Alternative evaluation processes: Ben Boerkoel, boerkoelb@michigan.gov

cc: Michigan Education Alliance