



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** August 22, 2019

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

**FROM:** Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*  
Finance and Operations

**SUBJECT:** Revised Model Code of Student Conduct

On June 11, 2019, the State Board of Education approved the revised [Model Code of Student Conduct](#). Among revisions to the Model Code is the requirement of school officials, before suspending or expelling a student, to consider a number of situation-specific factors, including whether a lesser intervention or restorative practices would address the pupil's violation or behavior. Other changes were made to reflect recent legislation.

One of MDE's three priorities is to address the needs of the whole child. This document intentionally proposes an approach to school discipline that gives preference to keeping students in school where they can receive the academic and social-emotional supports they need to be successful. It includes recommended responsibilities of each school community member, and lists the proactive steps of positive behavior supports and restorative practices available before articulating the school community's consequences for disruptive conduct.

The revised Model Code of Student Conduct supports the Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan, Goal 4: To reduce the impact of high-risk factors, including poverty, and provide equitable resources to meet the needs of all students to ensure that they have access to quality educational opportunities.

Questions regarding the revised policy can be directed to Mary Teachout at [TeachoutM@Michigan.gov](mailto:TeachoutM@Michigan.gov) or 517-241-7092.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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