



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

RICK SNYDER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

April 3, 2014

**MEMORANDUM**

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

FROM: John C. Austin, President, State Board of Education  
Mike Flanagan, State Superintendent

SUBJECT: Public Comment on State Board of Education's Draft Policy on  
Reducing Student Suspensions and Expulsions

The State Board of Education (SBE) and the State Superintendent have long understood the importance of keeping students in school and engaged in the learning process. The use of suspension and expulsion as a disciplinary response for schools is counter-productive to our goal of graduating students who are ready for careers, college, and community. The SBE has approved a draft policy on reducing the incidents of suspension and expulsion. We strongly encourage District Superintendents and Public School Academy Directors to review the draft policy and offer your thoughts to advise our process. We also would encourage you to share it with your building administrators for their review and input.

The Michigan State Board of Education's Draft Policy on Reducing Student Suspensions and Expulsions is currently available for review and comment. You may review the draft policy and offer any feedback at:  
<http://everyvoicecountsmi.org/78/public-comment-on-sbe-policy-on-suspensions-and-expulsions>. The final date for public comment is May 3, 2014.

Questions may be directed to the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit at (517) 241-4284.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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