



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**State of Michigan  
State Board of Education**

**Resolution on Amending State Accountability Laws Tied to State  
Summative Assessments for the 2020-2021 Academic School Year**

WHEREAS, pre-K-12 students and staff in Michigan and across the country have endured the disruption of teaching and learning in the past year due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS, most students have spent all or a significant portion of this school year learning at a distance;

WHEREAS, despite urging from the State Board of Education and State Superintendent to the U.S. Department of Education (USED) to waive state summative assessments during the pandemic, USED denied the assessment waiver this year;

WHEREAS, while the U.S. Department of Education is requiring Michigan schools to administer the state summative assessments, it waived all federal school accountability requirements tied to the results of those state assessments and also strongly encouraged states and local school districts to set aside high-stakes accountability measures tied to the state assessments;

WHEREAS, there are three state-level accountability laws tied to the state summative assessments: educator evaluations, Read By Grade Three student retention, and the A-F system;

WHEREAS, the results of this year's state summative assessments will be sparse, uneven, and therefore unrepresentative;

WHEREAS, as such, these results should not be used for educator evaluation, third-grade retention, and the A-F system;

WHEREAS, the timing of these state accountability laws is drawing quickly upon school administrators, teachers, students, families, and school districts;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the State Board of Education calls upon the Michigan Legislature to set aside, for the 2020-2021 school year, the state assessment component of the educator evaluation law, the retention requirement in the Read By Grade Three law, and the administration of the A-F law.

Adopted April 13, 2021

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