



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

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STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: November 5, 2015

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

FROM: Kyle L. Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*

SUBJECT: Safe and Supportive Schools Grant Outcomes: School Safety Scores Improve, Bullying Decreases and Graduation Rates Increase

From 2010-2015, staff from the Coordinated School Health and Safety Programs unit at the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) worked closely with 22 of Michigan's lowest achieving high schools in association with the Safe and Supportive Schools (S3) Grant. This grant enabled the schools to improve the conditions for learning to ensure students are safe, healthy, and ready to learn. Collecting and interpreting baseline data, identifying and addressing the needs of staff, students, and families in the school communities, and implementing and evaluating evidenced-based programming enabled many of the schools to realize significant improvements in their climate, culture, and academic achievement.

A few of the highlights include: 65 percent of the schools reported improved school safety scores, while 52 percent reported a decrease in bullying incidences on school grounds. Schools with a positive change in school safety scores saw a graduation rate increase of 18 percent on average, over the course of the initiative.

As a result of the S3 grant, many valuable lessons were learned that can assist any district or school interested in improving the climate and culture for the success of students. For more information on the outcomes and lessons learned from the S3 Grant, view the following reports:

- [S3SchoolClimateGrantOutcomes](#)
- [S3SchoolClimateLessonsLearned](#)

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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