



STATE OF MICHIGAN
STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
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SHEILA A. ALLES
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**Statement Supporting The Full Range of Opportunities
in the Michigan Merit Curriculum**

The Michigan State Board of Education values and supports the state's Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan being implemented by the Michigan Department of Education. This Plan, developed with feedback and suggestions from hundreds of citizens in Michigan, serves as a basis for improvement of educational opportunities and achievement for all children-in this state. An important pillar within this Plan is the recognition and focus on the Whole Child. The authors and supporters of the Top 10 in 10 Plan recognize that a child's educational development begins at birth and is affected by their environment, socio-economic status, health, citizenship, and demographics.

Therefore, each child is entitled to equitable opportunities that will support a holistic approach to learning. This support should include a strong foundation in reading, writing, mathematics, social studies, and science. These subjects should be available to all students throughout their K-12 years. As students' interests vary when entering middle and high school, every attempt should be made to provide the appropriate classes to meet the goals of each child.

Additionally, every child enrolled in school also should be provided opportunities to successfully complete classes in a language other than English; visual arts, performing arts or applied arts; computer science or computer coding and career and technical education programs.

We oppose any attempt to change state law that may lead local school districts to eliminate vital programs in the Arts and World Languages.

Adopted June 11, 2019

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 833-633-5788