



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

SHEILA A. ALLES  
INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 23, 2019

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

**FROM:** Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *V. Keesler*  
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

**SUBJECT:** Change in Student Growth Requirements for Educator Evaluations for the 2018-2019 school year.

Public Act 005 and Public Act 006 of 2019 were signed into law by Governor Whitmer on April 30, 2019, amending the requirements within MCL 380.1249b and MCL 380.1249 for the percent of student growth to determine educator evaluation summative ratings for the 2018-2019 school year. This memo is intended to communicate changes in guidance from the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) to appropriately address the changes represented within this legislation.

Implementing Michigan's educator evaluation law with fidelity is a key strategy in our efforts to accomplish our department goal to move Michigan to a top ten education state within the next ten years. Educator evaluations are linked to the MDE's Strategic Goal #3, to "develop, support, and sustain a high-quality, prepared, and collaborative education workforce."

The MDE has provided guidance for implementing the educator evaluation law MCL 380.1249 as described within Public Act 173 of 2015 and Public Act 170 of 2016 and MCL 380.1249b as described within Public Act 173 of 2015. That iteration of the educator evaluation legislation required 40% of the annual year-end evaluation be based on student growth and assessment data for teachers and administrators for the 2018-2019 school year.

With the enactment of Public Act 005 and Public Act 006 of 2019, the requirement for the portion of student growth and assessment for teachers and administrators to determine the annual year-end evaluation changed from 40% to 25% for the 2018-2019 school year. Beginning with the 2019-2020 school year, 40% of the annual year-end evaluation must be based on student growth and assessment. All other requirements described within MCL 380.1249 and MCL 380.1249b remain functionally

**STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION**

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT  
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER  
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT  
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

unchanged. Specifically, the requirement for teachers of core content areas in grades and subjects in which state assessments are administered (recommended by the MDE to be interpreted as subject ELA or/and math in grades 4-8) to use student growth from state assessments as 50% of the portion required for student growth remains unchanged. The portion of student growth not measured using state assessments must be measured using multiple research-based growth measures or alternative assessments that are rigorous and comparable across schools within the school district, intermediate school district, or public school academy.

The [MDE educator evaluations guidance documents and resources](#) are being changed to reflect these legislative amendments.

If you have any questions about MDE's guidance in response to these legislative changes, please contact Brian Lloyd at 517-241-7053 or [lloyd@michigan.gov](mailto:lloyd@michigan.gov).

cc: Michigan Education Alliance