



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: October 21, 2021

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

FROM: Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

SUBJECT: U.S. Department of Education (USED) Resources to Support Child and Student Social, Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health during COVID-19 Era - MEMO #COVID-19-209

In alignment with Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan goal to improve the health, safety, and wellness of all learners, the U.S. Department of Education (USED) has released a new resource: [Supporting Child and Student Social, Emotional, Behavioral and Mental Health](#) to provide information and resources to enhance the promotion of mental health and the social and emotional well-being of children.

This resource highlights seven key challenges to providing school- or program-based mental health support across early childhood, K-12 schools, and higher education settings, and presents seven corresponding recommendations. The resource includes many [real-world examples](#) of how the recommendations are being put into action by schools, communities, and states across the country. Michigan's Multi-Tiered System of Support (MiMTSS) technical assistance center is highlighted by USED as one of the real-world examples in how to use data for decision making to promote equitable implementation and outcomes.

According to USED, local public school districts, both traditional public school districts and public school academies, can use the resources in the American Rescue Plan's Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief program (ARP ESSER), as well as previous rounds of ESSER funds, to implement these recommendations and ensure students receive the support that they need.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

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