



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

RICK SNYDER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

January 27, 2011

MEMORANDUM

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

FROM: Carol Wolenberg, Deputy Superintendent *Cawl*

SUBJECT: Updated 5-O-B Seat Time Waiver, Pupil Accounting Manual

In August 2010, the Department issued new guidance under Section 5-O-B Seat Time Waiver in the Pupil Accounting Manual for schools operating under Seat Time Waivers approved by the State Superintendent. After careful review of feedback provided by districts operating Seat Time Waivers, the Department has updated the guidance to clarify the requirements for counting pupils in membership and participation. **The updated guidance will take effect beginning with the February 2011 count period.**

Currently, the Seat Time Waiver program requires the course content to be aligned with the Michigan Grade Level Content Expectations or the Michigan Merit Curriculum. We anticipate that the program would begin to align with the College and Career Ready standards in the 2011-2012 school year with a complete alignment no later than the 2012-2013 school year.

Seat Time Waivers offer flexibility to districts and provide alternative ways for students to learn. The Superintendent and the Department are committed to transforming Michigan's entire education system to one that rewards the successful demonstration of competency. While we continue to work toward this end, what we learn through the Seat Time Waiver initiative will enhance teaching and learning for the coming decade.

The updated Section 5-O-B Seat Time Waiver in the Pupil Accounting Manual is available at http://www.michigan.gov/documents/mde/5-O-B_SeatTimeWaivers_329678_7.pdf.

Questions regarding content of this memo may be directed to Barb Fardell, Office of Educational Improvement and Innovation, at 517.335.2957 or the Office of State Aid and School Finance at 517-373-3350.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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