



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

March 9, 2022

Dear Superintendent:

Thank you for your ongoing efforts to engage in meaningful consultation with tribes regarding your plans and programs supported by the various title funds your district receives under ESEA. Based on current data, for the 2021-2022 school year, your district remains an affected local education agency (LEA) as defined by section 8538 and, as such, is expected to continue efforts to engage meaningfully with tribes.

In accordance with ESEA section 8538(b), your district will need to submit to the Michigan Department of Education a written affirmation of consultation efforts that occurred during the 2021-2022 school year. The "[Affirmation of Consultation with Tribal Representatives](#)" form must be completed and submitted to MDE-Indigenized@michigan.gov by June 30, 2022.

LEAs must consult with tribes on plans and applications for all covered programs present in the LEA. Applicable covered programs are listed on the Affirmation of Consultation form. Note that the collaboration efforts LEAs already engage in to meet the requirements of their Title VI - Indian Education Programs may be insufficient to fully meet the consultation obligation as outlined in Section 8538 of ESEA.

Failure to submit the "Affirmation of Consultation with Tribal Representatives" form may result in a delay of your district's ability to access the full amount of funding associated with its 2022-2023 Consolidated Application until the documentation is submitted. Please contact Nate Beelen at beelenn@michigan.gov with any questions you may have.

Finally, I encourage you or a representative from your district to participate in our Indigenous Education Community of Practice meetings. These meetings occur approximately quarterly during the school year and are designed to help build a community of support for developing and implementing high-quality programs

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supporting Indigenous students. If you are not already participating in these meetings and would like to receive an invitation, please email Nate Beelen, Indigenous Education Consultant, at beelenn@michigan.gov.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Paula Y. Daniels".

Dr. Paula Y. Daniels, Director, Office of Educational Supports

cc: Jannan Cotto, Chair, Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors
Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent, Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports
Dr. Scott Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent, P-20 System and Student Transitions
Teri Rink, MDE Tribal Liaison to the Governor's Office
Jennifer Huisken LaPointe, Director, MDE Indigenous Education Initiative
Nate Beelen, Indigenous Education Consultant, Office of Educational Supports