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## Stakeholder Surveys Invite Feedback

Your voice matters in shaping Michigan's ESSA plan! That's why the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has released a set of public surveys to gather input on elements of Michigan's current DRAFT ESSA plan. Responses are coming in, and there is plenty of time to add your voice before the survey closes on **Monday, January 23, 2017**.

Click [Get Involved](#) on the [ESSA web page](#) ([www.michigan.gov/essa](http://www.michigan.gov/essa)) to offer your feedback.

### Four Feedback Options:

1. [Feedback Forum detailed surveys](#): View video presentations and provide detailed input on one or more of five topics:
  - ♦ [Support to Students and Schools](#)
  - ♦ [Supports to Special Populations of Students](#)
  - ♦ [Educator Quality](#)
  - ♦ [Accountability](#)
  - ♦ [Assessment](#)
2. [Open Public feedback survey](#): Individuals who did not attend a forum and do not wish to view the videos can complete this [more streamlined survey](#). This option allows participants to provide feedback on all five Action Team recommendations, but answers will not require knowledge of the details provided through the Forums.
3. [Comment portal](#) where you can leave detailed feedback on each element of Michigan's ESSA plan.
4. Email inquiries or ideas directly to [MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov).

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## ESSA FACTS . . . . .

ESSA introduces a teacher and "school leader" incentive program designed to support the development of effective school leaders.

Contact Us: [MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov) or [www.michigan.gov/essa](http://www.michigan.gov/essa)

## Ongoing Input Opportunities

This is the second opportunity for stakeholders to provide survey feedback that will guide Michigan's draft ESSA plan. The MDE expects to open the final draft plan for public comment in early 2017.

During Michigan's ESSA plan development, there will be ongoing opportunity for public and various stakeholder group input.

- [Sign up for the Virtual Parent Focus Group](#)
- [Sign up for the Virtual Teacher Focus Group](#)
- [Sign up for the Virtual Paraprofessional Focus Group](#)
- [Sign up to MDE's ESSA mailing list to receive email updates](#)

## Parent Input Informs ESSA Planning

A new report presents the findings from an online survey of 1,726 Michigan parents with children under age 18. The survey was developed by YouGov, a national survey research firm, in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education (MDE). The resulting data was analyzed by YouGov, which also prepared the report.

The online survey was open October 12 – November 18, 2016, and survey links were placed through various ESSA outreach efforts including:

- MI ESSA webpage
- ESSA-Notes newsletter (approximately 2,000 people)
- ESSA parent virtual focus group (volunteers, self-identified as parents)

Additional outreach included asking stakeholder organizations to share the link with their members. Select groups and media outlets also made the links available in their publications.

The following is a sampling of what those parents said related to specific ESSA elements.

## What types of feedback parents would find helpful when trying to determine the quality of a school (relates to school accountability and performance dashboards)

- Safety of schools (deemed important by 75%)
- Student achievement as expressed through graduation rates (74%)
- Student achievement as expressed through post-secondary school enrollment (70%)
- Presence of art and music classes (69%)
- Physical condition of schools (62%)
- Technology available to students (62%)
- Survey data that measures student engagement and views towards school (62%)

## What kinds of support parents expect the state of Michigan to provide to schools that are identified as "under-performing?"

- Coaching and hands-on support for teachers (67%)
- Additional funding (57%)
- Training for teachers (55%)
- Professional learning for teachers (51%)
- School culture and climate review and recommendations (48%)

## What Michigan citizens and policy makers need to improve in order to attract, prepare, and retain teachers and leaders

- Pay and benefits (77%)
- Resources (classroom supplies, textbooks, computers, etc. (73%)
- Greater respect (65%)
- Working conditions (59%)
- Growth opportunities and support (53%)

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The survey included additional questions that also have direct relevance to Michigan's ESSA plans. These questions came from an ongoing tracking study among a representative sample of Michigan parents of students in grades 4-12.

The tracking study is part of the [Michigan Student Inspiration Project](http://www.studentinspirationproject.org) ([www.studentinspirationproject.org](http://www.studentinspirationproject.org)), which also surveys students in grades 4-12.

To request a copy of the entire survey report, send an email to [MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov).

## Questions from the Field . . . . .

### **How can we provide input on the Comprehensive Needs Assessment (CNA) process?**

Send thoughts/ideas via the Comment Survey on the ESSA Get Involved page or email [MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov](mailto:MDE-ESSA@michigan.gov). A team is collecting ideas and local models in order to create a mock-up for public review and feedback.

### **When it comes to accountability reporting, will you report multiple letter grades per district, or just one?**

Under Michigan's current draft plan, districts will not receive a letter grade. Accountability grades will be assigned to each building in a district.

### **How can MDE help Michigan establish a master teacher system that entices master teachers to stay in the classroom and not pursue administration for career advancement?**

The Teacher and Leader Quality ESSA Action Team has discussed such measures as a tiered certification system, technical assistance models, information and training (including National Board Certification Training), and inviting teacher leaders to contribute to policy work. Districts, however, are where the rubber meets the road on this. Districts can use Title funds to train teacher leaders, create hybrid assignments, and offer pay incentives, for example.

## What's Happening Now . . . . .

- A set of Michigan's draft ESSA recommendations is now out for stakeholder comments via several survey options, found on the ESSA Get Involved page. The MDE has extended the deadline for this round of feedback through Monday, January 23, 2017.
- MDE staff continue to monitor the conversations being held in Washington D.C. as the nation transitions to a new administration and Congress. Rules and regulations regarding ESSA implementation remain uncertain until we see how our newly elected federal leaders will move forward in early 2017.