

STATE OF MICHIGAN DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D. STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 12, 2020

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents

Public School Academy Directors Nonpublic School Administrators

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

SUBJECT: Health Resources for Returning to School - MEMO #COVID-19-086

In response to the continuing COVID-19 pandemic, several resources are available for Michigan school districts to help ensure that proper public health protocols are met for a safe return to school.

- A <u>Return to Learn Toolkit</u> has been developed by the Michigan Association of Local Public Health (MALPH). Local health departments have been encouraged to use this template for distribution within their jurisdictions.
- The Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) offers an informative <u>infographic</u> for local school districts to work with their local health departments in COVID-19 case investigation and contract tracing.
- Local school districts and nonpublic schools may order personal protective equipment (PPE) at discounted prices in preparation for the 2020-21 school year through the Regional Educational Media Center (REMC) Association of Michigan. REMC is offering critical PPE and cleaning supplies through <u>REMC</u> <u>SAVE</u>. There are no order deadlines or quantity restrictions.

REMC SAVE has assembled a PPE collection designed to assist school staff in reducing the risk of infection due to the COVID-19 pandemic. School administrators can select from gloves, hand sanitizer, masks, face shields, signage, dividers, and thermo-scanning equipment. In addition, REMC SAVE offers a selection of cleaning supplies, including paper towels, sanitizers, portable sinks, and sanitizing wipes. The collection is found in the REMC SAVE catalog.

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REMC SAVE provides large volume contracts for educational resources, including furniture, school and office supplies, software, digital services, and technology. The program saves schools time and money by providing a simple and seamless bid process that meets statutory procurement requirements.

For additional information, please contact Sue Schwartz, REMC Executive Director, at sueschwartz@remc.org or by phone at 517-285-2151.

• The Michigan Economic Development Corporation's Pure Michigan Business Connect (PMBC) is offering an <u>online procurement platform</u> connecting businesses, including pre-K-12 schools, to more than 300 Michigan companies that produce and/or sell health and human service supplies in response to COVID-19. Local school districts of all sizes seeking to procure small volume or bulk non-medical grade personal protection equipment (PPE) and non-PPE supplies may access them through the portal.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors