



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: April 17, 2020

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: School Stability for Students Experiencing Foster Care During the
Mandatory School Closures

Due to the mandatory closures of Michigan public schools as a result of Governor Whitmer's Executive Order [2020-35](#), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE), in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Health and Human Services (MDHHS), recognizes the critical importance of all students receiving consistent and fair education during these times.

For students who are in foster care and who may have a foster care home placement move during the extended time of school closure, MDE and MDHHS advise that these students should remain enrolled in the local school district they were attending prior to the March 13, 2020 and the initial closure of PK-12 schools. Students remaining with their previously enrolled district and being a part of that district's Continuity of Learning Plan ensures stability and consistency for the student.

Districts and schools that have questions regarding this recommendation and providing services to students experiencing these moves may contact the MDE Foster Care Consultant, Kathleen Hoehne, at hoehnek@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

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608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • 833-633-5788