

GOVERNOR WHITMER'S PLAN TO GET MI KIDS BACK ON TRACK



THE CHALLENGE

A great education is foundational to future success. When a child gets a solid start, masters essential skills, and graduates high school, they are on track to earn a skill certificate or degree and land a good-paying job. Unfortunately, the last few years have disrupted regular learning patterns. Michigan's children are struggling to get the skills we know they need most. In-class instruction alone is not enough because the data is clear—they need additional support.

THE PLAN

Governor Whitmer's MI Kids Back on Track, which she first introduced last year, is a plan to get every kid what they need to meet their goals by expanding tutoring, after school programs, and extra instructional time in the classroom. This year, she's calling on leaders on both sides of the aisle to make a record investment in tutoring by Spring Break so we can offer every child more 1-on-1 time with a caring adult and more time to master the skills they need to succeed. That means more support for your kid, grandkid, niece, nephew, or other loved one after a tough few years and less money out of your pocket for private tutoring or other academic support.

Tutoring will address children's specific learning challenges and benefit the private sector too. Employers know that today's students are tomorrow's workforce and entrepreneurs and getting our kids back on track will help our state's economy grow long-term.

THE STORIES

NANCY FROM HASLETT

Nancy's son is a senior in high school and had a tough time throughout his schooling. Access to tutoring would have made a huge difference when Nancy's son was younger. She had to pay out of pocket for weekly tutoring sessions, when what her son needed was individual support in the classroom. As a parent, Nancy doesn't want to see other children struggle the same way her son did. By investing in tutoring, the state will lower costs faced by parents who only want the best for their children.

JAMES FROM MARSHALL

James, a substitute teacher, shared how important it is to meet students where they're at. He knows we need to empower teachers to do what they do best—teach—without the state micromanaging. James is frustrated with the rate teachers are experiencing burnout. Fixing this problem also means providing important support for staff and students alike. Thanks to an alternative route to certification, teachers like James can transition to full-time teaching, which helps Michigan train and retain quality educators.

CHERYL FROM CLARKSTON

Cheryl serves on the School Board of Trustees at Clarkston Community Schools. They have utilized record education funding to hire literacy coaches and seen improved scores, higher than the state and county average.

