



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


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MEMORANDUM

DATE: February 22, 2018

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

FROM: Sheila A. Alles 
Chief Deputy Superintendent

SUBJECT: Digital Learning Day – February 22, 2018 – Make Every Day Digital Learning Day

February 22 marks the seventh annual Digital Learning Day celebration across the United States and Michigan. This grassroots effort continues to celebrate the power of innovative practices happening in classrooms every day through the effective use of modern day tools. The Alliance for Excellent Education defines digital learning as, “any instructional practice that effectively uses technology to strengthen a student’s learning experience. It emphasizes high-quality instruction and provides access to challenging content, feedback through formative assessment, opportunities for learning anytime and anywhere, and individualized instruction to ensure all students reach their full potential to succeed in college and a career.”

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) and our collaborative partners are committed this year to spreading the word and supporting educators to make **Every Day Digital Learning Day** by highlighting several Education Technology Initiatives that support Michigan’s Top 10 in 10 Strategic Plan.

Michigan Integrated Technology Competencies for Students (MITECS)

The MITECS, released December 2017, replace the 2009 Michigan Educational Technology Standards for Students (METS-S). These updated competencies focus on learning enhanced by technology rather than on technology tools. The MITECS are aligned to the Top 10 in 10 focus area of Learner-Centered Supports. They reflect a learner-driven approach that empowers students to be active participants in determining their educational pursuits. To download a copy of the MITECS and access the MITECS Toolkit to support district level implementation visit:

<http://www.techplan.org/mitecs/>.

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#GoOpen Michigan Initiative

In February of 2016, Michigan made a commitment to the United States Department of Education's #GoOpen Campaign creating the #GoOpen Michigan initiative. The initiative supports schools and educators in the transition to use high-quality digital, openly-licensed educational resources (OER). This initiative aligns to all four focus areas of Michigan's Top 10 in 10 strategic plan. The MDE is working collaboratively with a wide range of stakeholders to build a Michigan specific repository of curated and vetted OERs and design high-quality, easily accessible professional learning opportunities. To discover more about the #GoOpen Michigan Initiative visit: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde-GoOpen>.

Top 10 in 10 Education Roadshow – Supporting Top 10 in 10: Challenging Perception; Cultivating Change

The MDE will be hosting seven Top 10 in 10 Education Roadshows across the state. These events have been created to support school and district improvement processes through networking with peers and MDE policy experts. Presentations and conversations will focus on evidence-based actions and strategies designed to support student engagement and success through the lens of the Top 10 in 10 focus areas (Learner-Centered Supports, Effective Education Workforce, Strategic Partnerships, and Systemic Infrastructure).

If you are a decision maker at the school, district, regional and state levels including education leaders, community partners, and workforce stakeholders, don't miss this opportunity to connect with others to challenge perceptions and cultivate change through the exploration of topics like digital learning.

March 20, 2018 - Bay Arenac ISD • March 22, 2018 - Wexford-Missaukee ISD •
March 26, 2018 - Berrien County RESA • April 16, 2018 - Wayne RESA •
April 18, 2018 - Jackson County ISD • April 20, 2018 - Eastern Upper Peninsula ISD
• April 27, 2018 - Kent County ISD

Register at: <https://cps.ferris.edu/coursedisplay.cfm?schID=23514&check=1>

Celebrate Digital Learning Day in Michigan by:

- Finding activities and ideas to celebrate the day with students at: <http://digitallearningday.org/activities-and-ideas/>.
- Registering your Digital Learning Day event at: <http://www.digitallearningday.org/register-your-event/>
- Participating in the Digital Learning Day 2018 Webinar: How Innovative Districts Blend Teaching and Technology to Improve Student Outcomes at: <https://all4ed.org/webinar-event/digital-learning-day-2018-webinar/>.
- Posting, tweeting, and sharing your Digital Learning stories on social media. Don't forget to use #MIDLDay, #DLDay, and tag [@OfficialDLDay](#) when posting, tweeting, and blogging.

For more information on digital learning and other education technology initiatives contact the Office of P-20 Data, Information and Research Management at 517-241-3629 or visit our website at www.techplan.org.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance