

# ESSA Notes



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## Round One Feedback Survey Attracts Stakeholder Engagement

In late July, the Michigan Department of Education released a feedback survey on the initial ideas around Michigan's plan for implementing the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). This initial feedback will inform the next phase of Michigan's ESSA plan development. Just two weeks into the survey's release, nearly 600 education stakeholders representing 62 counties have accepted the invitation to provide feedback on the initial ideas being explored by Michigan's participants in the ESSA Action Teams.

The survey includes the early concepts and key ideas generated by seven of MDE's [nine Action Teams](#), and asks stakeholders to share thoughts and suggestions in response to the ideas. Survey respondents to date include educators, employers, community members, and parents, with the vast majority (85 percent) self-identifying as educators.

Initial responses indicate that there is stakeholder interest in each area addressed by Action Teams, with the greatest level of engagement so far focusing on assessment implementation, teacher and leader quality, and accountability.

### Survey will remain open through August 16, 2016

It's not too late to contribute your thoughts. This first-round feedback survey will remain available through Tuesday, August 16, 2016. It is just one of several opportunities stakeholders will have to provide feedback on Michigan's ESSA plan. Watch for news on future surveys and engagement opportunities at [www.michigan.gov/essa](http://www.michigan.gov/essa) and in future issues of the *ESSA Notes* newsletter.

[Complete the survey](#)

[Subscribe to the ESSA Notes newsletter](#)

## ESSA FACTS . . . . .

ESSA brings accountability provisions for Title III (Language Instruction for English Learners and Immigrant Students) into Title I. These accountability determinations are not limited to Title III funded districts § 1111(c)(4)(B)(iv).

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

# ESSA Update Provided to State Board of Education

“MDE’s approach to stakeholder engagement through the ESSA process has been wide-reaching and exciting, generating new conversations and involving a diversity of perspectives that will help us craft an excellent, innovative plan.”

That was the message delivered to the State Board of Education at its August 9, 2016 meeting by Deputy Superintendent Venessa Keesler. Keesler’s comments came during a [presentation](#) to Board members regarding the progress of the MDE’s stakeholder partnership working to create Michigan’s ESSA plan.

Keesler described the key ideas and questions put forward by ESSA teams, consisting of both internal MDE staff and external stakeholders, who have been generating ideas and concepts related to:

- Supporting our lowest performing districts and schools
- Using assessment and accountability to drive supports and resources
- Leveraging our federal funds in support of student achievement

Keesler’s presentation provided an overview of the teams’ current ideas and concepts, and outlined areas of future discussion. The presentation also highlighted the connections between the ESSA work and Michigan’s plan to become a Top 10 State in 10 Years, and explained how ESSA supports certain areas of the “10 in 10” and serves as a vehicle for implementation of that broader initiative.

View [video](#) of 8/9/16 State Board of Education meeting

Review Keesler’s 8/9/16 [ESSA Update Power Point](#)

## Michigan’s ESSA Stakeholder Engagement Receives National Attention

Michigan’s ESSA planning process received some positive attention this month from Education Week. In an August 2 article entitled “[States Working to Engage Public as They Craft ESSA Plans](#),” the Michigan Department of Education’s stakeholder feedback system was featured in a sidebar that described it as “among the nation’s most elaborate plans for public involvement in crafting its state accountability plan under the Every Student Succeeds Act.”

More than 350 people are involved in drafting proposals that will be submitted to Michigan’s legislature and governor for approval. The plan has many moving parts, which are outlined in a new [one-page fact sheet](#) now available on the [ESSA website](#) (under “State Plan Development”).

**Read the fact sheet:** “[Michigan ESSA State Plan Development-High Level](#)”

**Read the Education Week article:** <http://www.edweek.org/ew/articles/2016/08/03/states-working-to-engage-public-as-they.html>

## What’s Happening Now

- MDE’s ESSA Action Teams are seeking feedback on their initial concepts related to Michigan’s ESSA plan development. **The [online survey](#) will be open through August 16, 2016.**
- We welcome involvement! If you’d like to subscribe to this newsletter or join a virtual focus group for parents or teachers, visit [www.michigan.gov/essa](http://www.michigan.gov/essa) and click on “Get Involved.”

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