



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: September 9, 2021

TO: Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents
Public School Academy Directors
Local Education Agency Principals

FROM: Delsa D. Chapman, Ed.D., Deputy Superintendent 
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

SUBJECT: Governor Whitmer Declares September Hispanic Heritage Month

Governor Gretchen Whitmer has declared September 2021 as Hispanic Heritage Month. According to the 2020 U.S. Census Bureau, Michigan's Hispanic and Latinx population has grown from 4.4% in 2010 to 5.6% in 2020. In the 2020-21 school year, approximately 121,324 students (8.44% of all students enrolled in Michigan's local school districts) identified as Hispanic/Latinx.

September is the month when the contributions of Latinx and Hispanic Americans in Michigan and the United States are celebrated. A guiding principle of Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan is that all students are encouraged to express their creativity, have a voice in their learning, and feel connected to their schools through authentic, meaningful relationships with educators and peers. The expression and connection occur when we celebrate and recognize the diversity in our state, our schools, and our classrooms.

As such, we celebrate the Hispanic and Latinx historical contributions to our great state of Michigan in all areas, including cultural, economics, art, science, and technology. Schoolwide and classroom-based academic and extra-curricular activities showcasing such contributions provide relevant opportunities for all students to collectively study, explore, and celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month.

View the full proclamation [here](#).

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

The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) continues to collaborate with educators and a wide range of partners and stakeholders in support of students and their achievements. MDE's promotes access to high-quality instruction and equitable learning experiences to positively affect how students see themselves and others around them. Resources to support Hispanic Heritage Month academic and extra-curriculum programs and activities can be found at the links below. Educators are invited to explore these external resources for additional information.

<https://www.hispanicheritagemoth.gov/for-teachers/>

<https://www.nea.org/professional-excellence/student-engagement/tools-tips/hispanic-heritage-month>

<https://latino.si.edu/learn/teaching-and-learning-resources/hispanic-heritage-month-resources>

<https://www.gpb.org/blogs/education-matters/2020/09/09/hispanic-heritage-month-resources-for-teachers-parents-kids>

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors