



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

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GOVERNOR

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INTERIM STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 16, 2018

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: Assessment of Digital Literacy Pilot Project

The Michigan Department of Education would like to announce the launch of the Digital Literacy Program Pilot through a partnership between Kickstand, Hamilton Community Schools, and Kent Intermediate School District. The purpose of the project is to provide a digital literacy preparation pilot project for pupils in grades kindergarten to eight in at least 50 districts and supports the Top 10 in 10 strategic goal #2, strategy 2.1, 2.6, 2.7 and 2.8 by:

- supporting the development of a coherent assessment system to support personalization of learning;
- engaging students in well-rounded learning experiences through engagement of digital literacy curriculum;
- providing access to personalized learning technologies that support and enhance those learning experiences; and
- creating an integrated system of guidance that includes curriculum, instruction, and assessment supported by technology with necessary classroom level resources provided.

Kickstand is seeking schools with students in grades K – 8 to participate in the Digital Literacy Program Pilot program aimed at building digital literacy skills for Michigan students. Participating schools will receive access to an online curriculum with embedded assessments at NO COST. All participants will receive free professional development during the 2018-19 school year and maintain access to all curriculum materials beyond the project period.

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The Digital Literacy program will help students gain and enhance skills that are crucial for thriving in a modern society. Younger learners will start with basic motor functions related to using a variety of electronic devices, while older students will practice using technology to research, experience, and produce online content and, all levels will focus on being safe and smart with technology. Lessons are meant to be completed in less than one hour per week allowing integration into tight schedules. The program is written with all teachers in mind. No matter the level of comfort with technology, Kickstand will be there to support teachers along the way.

To sign up, or to request more information, please e-mail
support@kickstandsystems.com

cc: Michigan Education Alliance