



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** February 25, 2021

**TO:** Local and Intermediate School District Superintendents  
Public School Academy Directors  
Nita M. Lowey 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (21<sup>st</sup> CCLC)  
Sub-grantees and Project Directors

**FROM:** Dr. Scott M. Koenigsknecht, Deputy Superintendent   
P-20 System and Student Transitions

**SUBJECT:** Importance of Out-Of-School Time (OST) Programming as More Districts  
Return to In-Person Learning

Almost all Michigan school districts either are offering at least an in-person option or are developing plans to return to in-person instruction in accordance with state and local guidance. The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) encourages administrators of local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public schools and public school academies (PSAs), to work closely with programs that may be operating in their buildings, such as 21<sup>st</sup> Century Community Learning Centers (Title IV, Part B) and other out-of-school time (OST) programs (e.g., YMCAs, Boys/Girls Clubs, MSU Extension, community-partners) that are available to support students and families in your communities.

MDE is reinforcing that schools identified as receiving services through the 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program in Michigan are required to offer in-person programming if the school is offering in-person instruction.

Research has demonstrated that quality OST programs have been successful in expanding learning opportunities designed to address foregone learning loss by students, as well as academic, social, mental, and physical well-being of students from preschool through grade 12. For this reason, MDE encourages all LEA/PSA administrators to include OST programming in their extended continuity of learning plan as they refine their end of the 2020-2021 school year and summer programming.

For questions on this topic, please contact Lorraine Thoreson, 21<sup>st</sup> CCLC program manager, at [thoresonl@michigan.gov](mailto:thoresonl@michigan.gov) or 517-275-1964.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors

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