



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: August 20, 2021

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

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

SUBJECT: School Goals Requirements in Section 98b of Public Act 48 of 2021

In [Public Act 48 of 2021](#), [Section 98b](#) requires those entities with schools—local education agencies (LEAs), both traditional public school districts and public school academies (PSAs), and intermediate school districts (ISDs)—to establish by not later than September 15, 2021 educational goals expected to be achieved for the 2021-22 school year for the school.

The new section of state law requires that building leaders of each school operated by the district, in conjunction with all teachers and school administrators of the school, create educational goals expected to be achieved by not later than the middle of the 2021-22 school year and goals expected to be achieved by not later than the last day of the 2021-22 school year. School-level goals shall:

- Include increased pupil achievement or validly and reliably measured growth, with the use of a benchmark assessment in the aggregate and for all subgroups of pupils broken down by grade level, student demographics, and mode of instruction.
- Include an assurance that the district shall select a benchmark assessment aligned to state standards and an assurance that the district shall administer the benchmark assessment to all pupils as prescribed under [Section 104a](#) to determine whether pupils are making meaningful progress toward mastery of these standards.
- Be measurable through a benchmark assessment described above.
- Correlate to the educational goals that were included in the district's COVID-19 learning plan under [Section 98a](#) for the 2020-21 school year, if applicable.

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The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) recognizes the short September 15, 2021 deadline imposed by the legislature on local staff, schools, and districts. To assist with meeting this deadline, MDE is encouraging districts to use existing goals to meet the legislated requirements of this section, including but not limited to school improvement goals, district improvement goals, MICIP submitted goals, local district strategic planning goals, and previously measured COVID-19 learning goals.

MDE will provide a template that schools may use for the design of building level goals. The uniform statewide template will be available to districts through the GEMS/MARS system on or before September 3, 2021.

Following the September 15, 2021 completion date, the established goals are to be on file with individual schools; goal accomplishment is to be publicly reported; and results posted on the district's website.

Please direct questions regarding the template in GEMS/MARS to Kevin Walters at WaltersK5@michigan.gov.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors