



STATE OF MICHIGAN  
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION  
LANSING


GRETCHEN WHITMER  
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.  
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

**MEMORANDUM**

**DATE:** May 14, 2021

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

**FROM:** Michael F. Rice, Ph.D., State Superintendent 

**SUBJECT:** U.S. Dept. of Education Best Practices Clearinghouse to Highlight Innovative Practices for Reopening Schools and Campuses - MEMO #COVID-19-189

This memorandum is to share the U.S. Department of Education's (USED) [Best Practices Clearinghouse to Highlight Innovative Practices for Reopening Schools and Campuses](#).

The clearinghouse was launched in late April and highlights the innovative work underway nationwide in continuing to reopen K-12 schools, early childhood centers, and postsecondary institutions. Through the clearinghouse, USED is providing examples of how schools and other educational institutions can safely reopen as communities continue to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.

The website contains strategies and resources for educational settings organized in three main topic areas:

- **Reopening Safely:** Safe and Healthy Environments
- **Student Supports:** Providing Supports to Young Children, Students, and Families
- **Educator Supports:** Early Childhood Provider, Teacher, Faculty, and Staff Well-Being, Professional Development, and Supports

Clearinghouse entries are sortable by topic area, instructional level, and specific equity focus.

USED will continue to update the clearinghouse resources and invites schools and other educational institutions to submit examples of local best practices and lessons learned, particularly those with an equity focus, to be considered for inclusion on the site.

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The clearinghouse is among a number of informational resources that the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has shared and will share with districts to support recovery efforts. As we've noted previously, in our local control state, we know that there is no single plan or direction appropriate for all of Michigan's 829 local school districts. In the coming months, MDE will continue to provide resources and information that may be of interest to you and your teams as you strategize on how best to serve children and develop your plans in your district for a new, better normal next year.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance  
Confederation of Michigan Tribal Education Directors