



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING

GRETCHEN WHITMER
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL F. RICE, Ph.D.
STATE SUPERINTENDENT

MEMORANDUM

DATE: March 20, 2020

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

FROM: Venessa A. Keesler, Ph.D., Deputy Superintendent *VK*
Division of Educator, Student, and School Supports

Kyle Guerrant, Deputy Superintendent *KG*
Division of Finance and Operations

SUBJECT: Instructional Time During School Closure

Following the closure of all elementary and secondary school buildings on March 16, 2020 (pursuant to Governor Gretchen Whitmer's Executive Order 2020-5), the Michigan Department of Education (MDE) has received questions regarding instructional time during the school closure period. The purpose of this memo is to answer those questions.

May an ISD or LEA/PSA offer qualifying professional development for instructional time during this period?

No. ISDs or LEAs may certainly offer professional learning to their employees (while following guidelines regarding crowd size and other considerations). However, this professional learning would *not qualify* for instructional time during this period of mandated school closure.

If an LEA or PSA can meet all requirements to transition to virtual learning, would the time during the mandated closure be counted as instructional time?

No. There is no mechanism to earn instructional time during a period of mandated school closure. However, schools can and are encouraged to offer supplemental learning opportunities to students using distance learning methods as they see fit. MDE will not be granting seat time waiver requests during this time.

cc: Michigan Education Alliance

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

CASANDRA E. ULBRICH – PRESIDENT • PAMELA PUGH – VICE PRESIDENT
MICHELLE FECTEAU – SECRETARY • TOM MCMILLIN – TREASURER
TIFFANY D. TILLEY – NASBE DELEGATE • JUDITH PRITCHETT
LUPE RAMOS-MONTIGNY • NIKKI SNYDER

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