

GIVING SCHOOLS MAXIMUM FLEXIBILITY TO EMPOWER STUDENTS AND PARENTS



Making learning possible anywhere

Learning doesn't stop when a student leaves the classroom. Redefining the word "attendance" to mean engaged in instruction rather than physically present allows schools to be innovative and gives students the opportunity to learn outside of school. Schools should be measured for how they engage students, not how long a student sits in a seat.



Ensuring the health and safety of students

Many parents are concerned about sending their kids back to school as the public health crisis continues to loom. Under our plan, local school districts would partner with their local health departments to develop health and safety standards that make sense for their local community.



Improving calendar and curriculum flexibility

Schools should have the flexibility to begin instruction as quickly and safely as possible, and focus on the core subject areas. Under our plan, school districts could start whenever is best for them and not worry about obtaining a waiver to bypass Michigan's Labor Day start requirement. It's more important than ever for students to focus on the basics, and schools should concentrate efforts on math, reading, science and social studies. Our new plan also will limit the number of forgiven snow days to just two annually and continue learning through remote instruction that covers the same standards in the same scope and sequence to count toward the day and hour requirements.



Empowering schools to maximize student learning

Our plan empowers school districts to develop flexible learning plans for the 2020-21 school year to maximize student learning. At a minimum, in-person instruction would be required for students in Kindergarten through 5th grade. The plan requires learning to continue in the same scope and sequence as in-person education. Learning progress must be monitored by parents and teachers, educational goals must be established, and benchmark assessments must be used to monitor progress.



Gathering benchmark assessment data

Understanding a student's knowledge of critical concepts is important to ensuring instruction is focused on the most needed areas. Benchmark assessments provide detailed information to parents and teachers about where a student is excelling or needs additional help. When in-person instruction resumes, schools will administer a benchmark assessment to help evaluate where students are at academically.



Restarting extracurricular activities safely

Parents and students are understandably concerned about safety in extracurricular activities. That's why we're requiring school districts to work with local health departments to establish protocols to ensure kids' safety and empowering parents to make decisions for what is safe based on local guidance.

\$1.3 BILLION TO SUPPORT SCHOOLS

Our plan will provide:

- \$800 per pupil to K-12 schools to implement robust distance learning plans and health and safety measures to return students safely to the classroom.
- A one-time \$500 for frontline teachers. Educators have been flexible and innovative in the face of unprecedented change and deserve this compensation.
- \$80 million to Intermediate School Districts to assist schools in coordinating and implementing distance learning plans and safe learning measures.