



STATE OF MICHIGAN
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
LANSING



JENNIFER M. GRANHOLM
GOVERNOR

MICHAEL P. FLANAGAN
SUPERINTENDENT OF
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

December 17, 2008

MEMORANDUM

TO: Intermediate School District and Local Educational Agency Superintendents
Special Education Directors
Public School Academy Administrators
Early On® Coordinators

FROM: Sally Vaughn, Ph.D. *Sally*
Deputy Superintendent/Chief Academic Officer

SUBJECT: Implementation of the Redesigned Continuous Improvement Monitoring System (CIMS-2) for Special Education and Early Intervention Services (*Early On*®)

The Offices of Special Education and Early Intervention Services (OSE-EIS) and Early Childhood Education and Family Services (ECE&FS) are completing a redesign of the Continuous Improvement Monitoring System (CIMS-2). This system is designed to assist the state, local educational agencies (LEAs), and service areas to achieve improved outcomes for children and students with disabilities, and assure compliance, as mandated under the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), 20 U.S.C. Chapter 33, §1400 et seq. The redesign has streamlined the original CIMS as well as aligned it with required federal performance indicators and the school improvement process.

Required training and technical assistance will be scheduled during the months of January - March 2009. These activities are designed to inform LEAs and service areas of their responsibilities associated with CIMS-2. A range of activities has been created to align the level of information needed to the compliance rankings of districts and service areas. These activities range from 4-16 hour workshops, depending on the needs of the LEA and service area; webinars; or a Michigan Virtual University (MiVU) online course. State Board of Education Continuing Education units (SB-CEUs) will be offered for these training activities.

Early in January 2009, each LEA and service area will receive communication from the OSE-EIS and ECE&FS requesting their attendance and/or participation in selected activities. Each LEA and service area is strongly encouraged to participate to ensure compliance with required monitoring processes.

If you have questions or concerns, please contact Ms. Teresita Long, Monitoring Coordinator, at (517) 335-0474.

STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

KATHLEEN N. STRAUS – PRESIDENT • JOHN C. AUSTIN – VICE PRESIDENT
CAROLYN L. CURTIN – SECRETARY • MARIANNE YARED MCGUIRE – TREASURER
NANCY DANHOF – NASBE DELEGATE • ELIZABETH W. BAUER
REGINALD M. TURNER • CASANDRA E. ULBRICH

608 WEST ALLEGAN STREET • P.O. BOX 30008 • LANSING, MICHIGAN 48909
www.michigan.gov/mde • (517) 373-3324