

Michigan Department of Education  
Partnership Districts Director (Unclassified)

**General Summary:**

The Director of Partnership Districts provides leadership and oversight for the partnership model and initiatives for public schools and Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan. This position works with MDE offices, the Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI), and community partners to improve student achievement, teacher preparation, professional development, and the department's strategic planning initiatives. Responsibilities include approval of partnership agreements with the goal of improving achievement levels at the lowest performing schools in Michigan; and ensures alignment of major department goals and initiatives. This position assists the chief deputy superintendent and the state superintendent of public instruction with providing leadership in developing, achieving, and maintaining the best possible partnership districts model services and implementation of Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan. This position provides direction, supervision, and coordination to ensure the department's activities are aligned with federal and state statutory and regulatory requirements and rules; State Board of Education and Department policies; and Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan.

**Description of Work**

**Daily Duties (65%)**

1. Lead the partnership model initiative to significantly improve student achievement by working with school districts to implement a partnership strategy with multiple partners at the table, including ISDs, education organizations, tribal education councils, businesses, community members, parents, higher education organizations, and foundations.
2. Serves as the liaison between MDE and partnership districts and facilitates the needs of both MDE and school districts. Oversee the approval, disapproval, and/or changes in the partnership agreements submitted to the department.
3. Manage the Office of Partnership Districts and lead an innovative, influential, and high-performing staff responsible for partnering with districts to identify evidence-based strategies and resources that support the development and implementation of outcomes, with a focus on improving student achievement.
4. Monitor implementation of partnership agreements and hold districts accountable for progress on intermediate measures. Implement next level of accountability.
5. Provide intensive individual support to high-need districts through biweekly meetings with the State Superintendent, ISD/RESA superintendents, and district leadership, ensuring timely follow-up and resolution of identified needs.
6. Other duties as assigned to accomplish the intent of the law and by the state superintendent of public instruction.
7. Leads and oversees the implementation of Michigan's Top 10 Strategic Education Plan, including alignment of major departmental goals and initiatives.
8. Supervises and directs the assigned program office assistant director.
9. Evaluates the assigned program office assistant director.
10. Assists in the preparation and administration of the budget for the office.

**Occasional Duties (25%)**

1. Annually submit a report to the standing committees of the Senate and House of Representatives with jurisdiction over education legislation on the progress being made to improve pupil proficiency in the targeted schools.
2. Meets with assistant director and advises staff in the resolution of sensitive, complex, or precedent-setting situations, determines appropriate course of action, and assigns responsibilities.
3. Reviews legislative analysis and proposed legislation and determines or recommends the department's position and course of action; assures conformance with legislative mandates, intent, and department budget.
4. Serves on boards, commissions, and committees on behalf of the state superintendent of public instruction and the department related to division programs and activities.

**Other Duties as Assigned (10%)****Direct Reports**

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**Education**

Master's degree or higher in a related field to the position

**Experience**

Two years of experience as a director or assistant director of an office or central office experience. Five years of experience in teaching /leadership in an urban district, preferred.