EDUCATIONAL RECOVERY PLAN FOR MICHIGAN

The Education Trust-Midwest proposes equitable, pragmatic solutions for our schools’ and students’ educational recovery process through six recommendations. Read more at: edtru.st/2020Report

6 RECOMMENDATIONS:

FAIR INVESTMENT
Michigan’s students have long been drastically underfunded. After months of distance learning and anticipated learning loss, the need to invest in all students, particularly Michigan’s vulnerable students is even greater. **WE RECOMMEND:** Prioritize education in state and federal budget decisions; protect the most vulnerable students from drastic cuts.

HONEST INFORMATION, TRANSPARENCY AND PUBLIC REPORTING
Once schools reopen, students need to be evaluated to determine their level of learning and provided with the appropriate instructional supports, remediation and resources. **WE RECOMMEND:** A common, unified interim assessment system to better understand student learning levels in the fall. Require districts to develop and publicly publish continuous learning plans to address the impact of COVID-19 on student learning in the fall and beyond.

EXTENDED LEARNING TIME
School closures from COVID-19 likely exacerbated longstanding achievement and opportunity gaps. **WE RECOMMEND:** State and district leaders must plan and act now to invest in teaching and learning, including with expanding effective instructional time to all students.

QUALITY VIRTUAL INSTRUCTION AND ACCESS
Many students, especially vulnerable students, do not have access to the necessary technology to access online learning. **WE RECOMMEND:** Michigan leaders can act swiftly to ensure all Michigan students have access to high-quality, consistent virtual instruction aligned with college- and career-ready standards. Families and educators must be supported to use high-quality distance learning.

INCLUSIVITY AND SOCIOEMOTIONAL SUPPORTS
Every day, students rely on schools for providing a wide range of wraparound services for the health and well-being of students. **WE RECOMMEND:** Students and families must have continued access to socioemotional services, college- and career-counseling, and other wraparound services.

TRANSITIONS TO POSTSECONDARY OPPORTUNITIES
Disruptions to learning due to COVID-19 can be particularly harmful and expensive for high school students. **WE RECOMMEND:** State leaders support students, especially low-income students, so they are academically prepared for postsecondary education and able to afford it. Schools and districts should assist parents, families and staff so graduates are prepared for college and career success.

As the U.S. rightfully confronts longstanding inequality and racial injustice, Michiganders have a historic opportunity to address decades-long underinvestment in education and opportunity gaps disproportionately impacting students of color, students from low-income families, students with disabilities, English learners and students in rural communities.

—Amber Arellano, Executive Director of the nonpartisan The Education Trust-Midwest

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