

# A Tool for Modifying the Michigan Merit Curriculum

## Six Steps to a Diploma via the Personal Curriculum (PC)

January 2015 (revised based on August 2014 changes)

**Step 1:** Parent, student, or school personnel requests a personal curriculum (PC). Request is reviewed to determine if modifications are consistent with state and district policy.

**Step 2:** PC team includes student, parent, and counselor **OR** current teacher familiar with the student and content to be modified. The PC team develops a PC subject to the approval of the district superintendent or designee:

- Reviews Educational Development Plan (EDP), student information, performance data, supports and interventions already implemented
- Analyzes student needs and Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC) content to determine appropriate modifications.
- Determines how much of MMC content is practicable.
- Develops measurable performance goals and evaluation standards aligned to the goals for student success.
- Provides a method for evaluating progress.
- Confirms alignment with EDP goals.

### **Additional considerations for Students with an Individualized Education Program (IEP)**

- Add school psychologist to PC team (if available/appropriate).
- Confirms consistency with Individualized Education Program (IEP).

### **Additional considerations for Transfer Students who have completed the equivalent of two years of high school credit**

- Reviews credits earned (based on transcript and appropriate assessments) to satisfy the curricular requirements of the MMC.
- Determines the MMC content and credit requirements necessary for the student to earn a diploma.
  - Requirements must include one-half (0.5) credit in Civics and math or math-related credit in final year of high school (Algebra I or higher if enrolled for at least one full school year).
- Confirms alignment with EDP or postsecondary career goals.

**Step 3:** Personal Curriculum developed by PC team is either approved or denied. If approved the parent, student and superintendent or designee sign off.

**Step 4:** PC is implemented.

**Step 5:** Parent monitors progress through quarterly communication with each teacher of modified curriculum area. If revisions are needed, PC team reconvenes and revises using same process.

**Step 6:** The board of local school district or public school academy may award a diploma to students completing all requirements of a PC.