State Board of Education Statement on Senate Bill 103

The State Board of Education supports a fair and balanced educator evaluation system. The purpose of educator evaluations is to support effective teaching and improve student learning.

In order to realize this outcome, Michigan needs a more consistent educator evaluation system, based on consistent observation tools and practices; consistent approaches to determining student growth and incorporating growth measures into evaluation ratings; and the seamless integration of the evaluation process and outcomes with the identification and implementation of professional learning goals; and includes an appropriate/independent appeals process.

The State Board of Education appreciates the Governor and the state Legislature for their work in commissioning and supporting the final report of the Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness, headed by Dr. Deborah Ball, and for the ongoing efforts of both the House and the Senate to draft legislation in support of Michigan’s educator evaluation efforts.

The Legislature currently is crafting and deliberating on Senate Bill 103 – its latest version of amending the Revised School Code to improve the local teacher and administrator evaluation systems.

The State Board of Education reaffirms its support for a final product that remains faithful to the consensus recommendations in the “Ball Report” of the Michigan Council for Educator Effectiveness. Any effort to shave off integral components of that report will weaken the fair and evidence-based evaluation strategies contained within it.

Adopted October 13, 2015