

School Counselor Shortage

Michigan House of Representatives

Committee on Education

Dr. Sheryl Kennedy, Legislative Liaison

Michigan Department of Education

Eight Goals

1. Expand early childhood learning opportunities
2. Improve early literacy achievement
3. Improve the health, safety, and wellness of all learners
4. Expand secondary learning opportunities for all students
5. Increase the percentage of all students who graduate from high school
6. Increase the percentage of adults with a post-secondary credential
7. Increase the numbers of certified teachers in areas of shortage
8. Provide adequate and equitable school funding



Goals

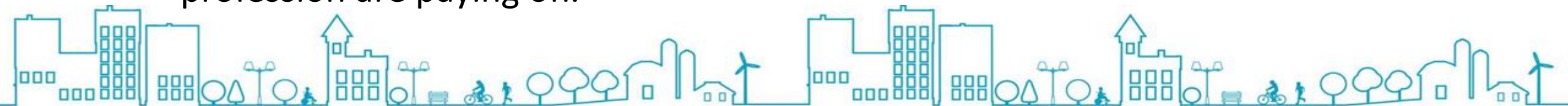
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Goal 7: Increase the numbers of certified teachers in areas of shortage

Summary

1. Teacher Preparation Enrollment decreased 59% from 2011-2012 to 2016-2017; it has rebounded and has **increased 56% from 2016-2017 to 2021-2022.**
2. Over the last seven years, net increases of **1,317 Black or African American teachers** and an additional **216 Hispanic or Latino teachers** have joined the teaching profession.
3. The state has dedicated significant funds in the last two years to addressing the teacher shortage, **from \$0 in FY20 to \$575 million in FY23 and over \$445 million in FY24.**
4. New programs to improve the quantity, quality, and diversity within the profession are paying off.



Goal 7: State and Local Efforts

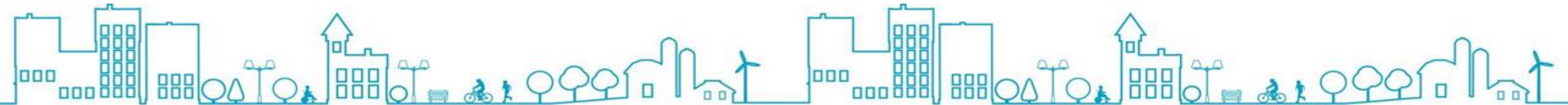
The U.S. Department of Education has reported that for the period of May 2019 to September 2023, **Michigan ranked second highest in the nation in education job recovery** -- among **only seven states to have increases in education staffing**. This shows that **Michigan is on the right path to addressing staffing shortages in public education**.

Source: U.S. Department of Education. (2023). Raise the Bar Policy Brief.



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State School Aid Funding for Children's Mental Health

Fiscal Year	Recurring	Non-Recurring
FY18	\$0	\$0
FY19	\$31.8m	\$0
FY20	\$31.8m	\$0
FY21	\$46.3m	\$0
FY22	\$54.4m	\$125.4m
FY23	\$79.4m	\$282.5m
FY24	\$112.8m	\$343m



FY24 State Budget To Improve Health, Safety, and Wellness



\$28.9 million increase (+36.7%) for school Mental Health and Support Grants (sec. 31n)

This includes:

- **\$24.4 million** increase in existing mental health grants to ISDs for mental health professionals (sec. 31n(6))
 - Increases the initial payment to ISDs
 - Increases the per-pupil allocation



Goal 3: District and Department Efforts



Mental health services are available!

- Approved sections 31n, 31o, 31p, and 31aa of the State School Aid Act help:
 - ISDs and LEAs hire or contract for support staff for student mental health needs.
 - Improve youth access to evidence-based mental health services by training school mental health professionals in effective practices.
 - Purchase mental health services or products necessary to improve or maintain the mental health of students and staff.

Provider Type*	19-20	20-21	21-22	22-23
Counselor	863	982	1,069	1,195
Nurse	61	63	106	110
Social Work	2,421	2,559	2,817	3,004
Psychologist	1,033	1,051	1,052	1,059
Other (i.e., Board Certified Behavior Analyst)	0	11	21	33
Total	4,378	4,666	5,065	5,401

1,000 more mental health providers are in schools!

FY24 State Budget To Improve Health, Safety, and Wellness



\$15 million for the student mental health apprenticeship retention and training (SMART) internship grant program. This program is for students in graduate-level mental health professional programs (sec. 31ff)*

*Non-Recurring



We still have work to do

- The student to counselor ratio is far too great.
- Much of the funding to support this work is still non-recurring and needs to be recurring.
- We need to build more counselor preparation programs and expand those that currently exist to support the school counselor and other school helper profession pipelines.

Thank you! Questions?

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