

**Michigan Educational Research
Association, Inc. (MERA)**
(www.merainc.org)

MERA Mission:

The mission of The Michigan Educational Research Association, Inc. is to promote accurate, high quality, appropriate and ethical use of research, assessment, and evaluation practices that improve teaching and learning in education.

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Michigan Educational Research Association, Inc.
c/o Macomb Intermediate School District
44001 Garfield Road,
Clinton Township, Michigan 48038

Michigan Educational
Research Association, Inc.
(MERA)

Presents

Determining
Educational
Impact



(www.merainc.org)

Fall 2017 Conference
November 20-21, 2017
Frankenmuth, Michigan

Program Information

With resources dwindling, it becomes imperative that, as an educational organization, we know if what we are doing is making a difference. Evaluation is an essential process that produces evidence that can help us make that difference determination. Despite pressures (e.g., federal mandates) to evaluate, it doesn't occur consistently across educational settings. Unfortunately, we are spending time, people and money on programs, initiatives, and strategies and do not know whether they are working, how they are working, or why they are working. Learning more about this crucial topic and how to implement it, with fidelity, under a variety of conditions, is essential for schools and districts as they intentionally manage their precious resources.

Monday, November 20, 2017



Dr. Wendy Tackett has immersed herself into the educational evaluation field over the last twenty-two years. She deeply knows and understands the topic and, at this Fall conference, expects to create a day-long interactive experience that will leave participants confident that they can successfully implement an effective evaluation process that will measure impact. Educators will also grasp how to creatively interpret and utilize evaluation data that will promote a collective and clear appreciation for next steps to improve teaching and learning outcomes.

In this workshop, attendees will learn alternative ways, outside of using standardized assessment data (e.g. classroom assessments, teacher observations, culture/climate surveys, perception surveys), to measure impact with on-the-spot technical assistance for local evaluation challenges, and creative ways to interpret and use data (e.g. color scripting, paired comparisons).

Dr. Tackett is the founder and president of iEval, an educational evaluation firm, which began in 2002. Dr. Tackett has extensive experience evaluating educational programs throughout Alaska, Florida, Indiana, Michigan, Ohio, Oklahoma, and Washington, DC. Dr. Tackett has also taught personnel evaluation and program evaluation theory at Western Michigan University, where she also earned her doctorate in evaluation, measurement, and research design. In 2016, the Michigan Association for Evaluation presented Dr. Tackett with the John A. Seeley Friend of Evaluation Award, honoring those who make a consistent and continuing leadership contribution to the field of evaluation.

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

On conference day two, a number of high caliber educational leaders will build on day one connections as they provide topical updates, information and insights that will promote your thinking.

Conference Information

Dates/Times:

Monday, November 20, 2017

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch (annual meeting)

Wendy Tackett—Measuring Impact through Program Evaluation

Tuesday, November 21, 2017

8:45 a.m. — 3:45 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch

Ray Hart— A Systems View of Student Performance Across Time

Christopher Janzer—ESSA and Accountability: Michigan's Transparency Dashboard

Sheila Alles—Top 10 in 10—Measuring Our Progress

Lunch 11:45 A.M.—12:30 P.M.

Gary Miron—Evaluating School Choice Reforms: Lessons from Michigan and Beyond

David Judd and Andrew Middlestead—Status Updates on All Things Assessment and Reporting from MDE

Jessica Fenby and Dana Frederick—Newest Reporting on MI School Data

• [An agenda for days one and two will be distributed to registrants as the conference dates draw closer.](#)

• [Please make lodging arrangements directly with the Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Lodge \(989\) 652-7200 which has special rates for MERA attendees.](#)

• [Conference Questions/Information: David Treder \(810\) 591-4971 or \[dtreder@genseeisid.org\]\(mailto:dtreder@genseeisid.org\)](#)

Conference Location:

[Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Lodge](#)
[One Covered Bridge Road](#)
[Frankenmuth MI, 48734](#)

Registration Information

Directions for On-line Registration:

1. Go to www.misd.net
2. Click on Course Offerings then click on Complete List of Courses/Events
3. Click on View by Category
4. Select the "MERA" category from the scroll-down menu. Click "Go"
5. Select "MERA Fall Conference"
6. Follow the registration instructions to complete your registration! (If you would like SCECHs and/or a vegetarian meal, please indicate that in the "Special Needs/Comments/Requests" field.)
7. A confirmation of registration will be sent via email
8. If you have any questions regarding registrations, please contact Jim Gullen at jgullen@misd.net
9. Please register by Wednesday, Nov. 15, 2017.

**Advanced on-line registration is encouraged, but day of registrations, at the conference, will be accepted.*

Cost: (Select one during online registration)

- \$110.00 One-Day Registration Fee (check one below)
 - () November 20, 2017
 - () November 21, 2017
- \$165.00 Two-Day Registration Fee
- \$75.00 Two-Day Retired or Student Registration