

**Michigan Educational Research  
Association, Inc. (MERA)**  
([www.merainc.org](http://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

Exploring the Evaluation  
Mindsets that Align to  
Educational Growth and  
Improvement



([www.merainc.org](http://www.merainc.org))

Fall 2015 Conference  
November 23-24, 2015  
Frankenmuth, Michigan

## Program Information

### Monday, November 23, 2015

Over the years, evaluation, despite its acknowledged importance to teaching and learning, has not consistently taken place in schools and districts. This past school year (2014-15), all schools and districts were required to submit, in the Adaptive System of School Improvement Support Tools (ASSIST), an educational evaluation of a program, initiative or planned strategy using the Michigan Evaluation Tool. (This activity turned into a compliance task for many schools/districts.) What seemed to be missing, from this state required activity, and possibly a strong reason why evaluation has been inconsistent, in the past, was an evaluation mindset that drives systems to grow and improve as learning organizations.

Mindsets are self-beliefs people, and organizations, hold about themselves and others. They tend to determine behaviors, outlooks and mental attitudes. People can have a growth mindset (belief that success can come from hard work and tenacity) or a fixed mindset (belief that ability is pre-determined and innate). Which of the two mindsets is beneficial for an evaluator to hold?

The nature of evaluation (to judge the worth or merit of something) may trigger a performance orientation in the evaluator, as well as, those being evaluated which could interfere with deep change occurring. Holding a growth mindset will help the evaluation process initiate deep thinking about outcomes.



Dr. Diane Jackson will provide an informative, engaging and thoughtful day for those interested in expanding their evaluation mindsets. Dr. Jackson is an accomplished cognitive and leadership coach, as well as a published author. She has over 40 years of educational experience as an administrator, supervisor, coordinator, staff developer, adult facilitator, coach and teacher primarily with the Detroit Public Schools (DPS). In addition to her DPS work, she has also taught at Wayne State University as an adjunct professor. Finally, Dr. Jackson spent nine years as a national trainer and education consultant for the Efficacy Institute in Lexington, Massachusetts.

### Tuesday, November 24, 2015

Day two of the conference will offer updates and perspectives, from Michigan educational leaders, on critical Michigan topics. Day one participants will be able to take what they learned about growth mindsets and, based on the information they hear on day two, begin to take a growth mindset approach on appealing topics that could start a change process for improvement at one's respective school, district or organization.

## Conference Information

### Dates/Times:

Monday, November 23, 2015

9:00 a.m. — 4:00 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch (annual meeting)

**Dr. Diane Jackson**—Moving Beyond Compliance to Deep Change

Tuesday, November 24, 2015

8:45 a.m. — 3:30 p.m.

Continental breakfast and lunch

**Karen McPhee**—Policy Perspectives from the Executive Office

**Rod Bernosky**—CEPI Updates

**Dr. David Treder**—Spring 2015

M-STEP Reflections

**Kathleen Miller**—Program Evaluation Update

**David Judd and Andrew Middlestead**—M-STEP: The first year, this year and beyond

**Jared Robinson**—Student Growth Percentiles: Implications for Research, Accountability, and Educator Evaluation

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### Conference Location:

Frankenmuth Bavarian Inn Lodge  
One Covered Bridge Road  
Frankenmuth MI, 48734

•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@geneseeisd.org](mailto:dtreder@geneseeisd.org)

## Registration Information

### Directions for On-line Registration:

1. Go to [www.misd.net](http://www.misd.net)
2. Click on Course Offerings
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 [gullenj@michigan.gov](mailto:gullenj@michigan.gov) or at 517.373.1925
9. Please register by Wednesday, Nov. 18, 2015.

*\*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 23, 2015
  - November 24, 2015
- \$165.00 Two Day Registration Fee
- \$75.00 Two Day Retired or Student Registration