

MERA Fall Conference

November 23 and 24, 2009
 Bavarian Inn Conference Center
 Frankenmuth, Michigan



1. Assessment Balance and Quality Dr. Carol A. Commodore ~ Mon 9:15 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	0	0.0%						
Slightly	0	0.0%						
Moderately	7	22.6%						
Very Much	22	71.0%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	2	6.5%						
No Response	0	0.0%						

2. A panel of districts participating in the Michigan Assessment Consortium Ingram ISD ~ Tue 8:30 a.m. - 10:30 a.m. Kim Young, OEAA and Kathy White Dewsbury,

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	0	0.0%						
Slightly	1	3.2%						
Moderately	5	16.1%						
Very Much	20	64.5%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	3	9.7%						
No Response	2	6.5%						

3. OEAA Updates Joseph Martineau, OEAA ~ Tue 10:45 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	0	0.0%						
Slightly	1	3.2%						
Moderately	5	16.1%						
Very Much	20	64.5%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	3	9.7%						
No Response	2	6.5%						

4. The American Community Survey, the latest school district specific data: Bettie Landauer-Menchik, MSU ~ Tue 1:00 p.m. - 1:45 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	0	0.0%						
Slightly	1	3.2%						
Moderately	6	19.4%						
Very Much	17	54.8%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	4	12.9%						
No Response	3	9.7%						

5. An Accountability Update from OEAA-MI-SAS Paul Bielawski, MDE ~ Tue 1:45 p.m. - 3:00 p.m.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Not at all	0	0.0%						
Slightly	0	0.0%						
Moderately	3	9.7%						
Very Much	16	51.6%						
N/A (Didn't Attend)	5	16.1%						
No Response	7	22.6%						

6. Check the one alternative below that best describes your current employment setting:

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Local School District	18	58.1%						
Intermediate School District	7	22.6%						
MDE	0	0.0%						
College/University	2	6.5%						
Other Nonprofit	0	0.0%						
Other Governmental	0	0.0%						
Self Employed/Consultant	1	3.2%						
Other	2	6.5%						
No Response	1	3.2%						

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7. Check the one alternative below that best describes your current employment role.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Assessment Director/Coordinator	9	29.0%						
Curriculum Coordinator/Director	9	29.0%						
Central Office Administrator	3	9.7%						
School Administrator	0	0.0%						
Teacher/Counselor	1	3.2%						
State Department Support	0	0.0%						
Consultant	3	9.7%						
Program Evaluator	2	6.5%						
Grant Writer	0	0.0%						
Other	3	9.7%						
No Response	1	3.2%						

8. Please indicate themes, issues or topics you would like to hear about at future MERA conferences.

Response	Frequency	Percent	0	20	40	60	80	100
Assessing Special Populations	8	25.8%						
Content Standard Changes and Assessment	12	38.7%						
Data Systems/Data Warehouse Projects (LEA/ISD)	9	29.0%						
Developing valid district/classroom assessments	15	48.4%						
Program Evaluations	5	16.1%						
High School Merit Curriculum	3	9.7%						
MME/MEAP: Changes, Data Trends	14	45.2%						
Reauthorization of NCLB	8	25.8%						
Research Studies and Michigan Schools	11	35.5%						
School Accountability/Accreditation	6	19.4%						
Valid uses of assessment data	9	29.0%						
Other	3	9.7%						
No Response	2	6.5%						

9. Please use the space below to expand on any topics and the focus that would be of greatest benefit/interest to you.

- How can I use assessment data to impact learning - specific classroom models
- Multiple measures and intersection of data
- Research on practices successfully closing achievement gaps
- Where and how to find/apply for funding to develop local assessments for specific populations including ELLS.
- Being a new assessment coordinator everything was of benefit to me.
- I would love to attend the ATI conferences, but cannot travel out of state. If enough people could attend locally the costs would be much less.

Also be nice to bring in staff from ATI (Rick Stiggins group) to offer the balanced assessment seminar typically only in Portland.

10. How did you hear about the conference?

- Email
- District Assessment Coordinator
- Through my school's superintendent
- From the school assessment coordinator
- E. Bauer informed me of the conference
- Flyer
- Previous conferences
- Word of mouth
- Long time member
- Long time attendee
- Mark Weinberg
- Board member passed it on
- Member for years
- E-mail
- Member of MERA
- Word of mouth - flyer from co-worker
- A co-worker
- Work staff that attended previously
- Flier

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11. What were the strengths of the conference?

- Knowledgeable presenter
- Excellent organization, specific actions
- I was happy with the overall information about assessment and moving a district forward.
- Location, agenda, food
- The teacher who shared their practices
- Topics & networking & OEAA updates
- Carol and Bettie
- Knowledgeable speakers
- Second day
- Presenter and topic
- Good information on assessment
- Information on assessment
- Starting @ 9:00 to allow for am travel; appropriate breaks with snacks relevant content
- Small group

12. What suggestions or observations do you have that would help us improve the conference?

- Have 45 minutes, lunch & leave earlier
- Non at this time.
- Carol Commodore spoke at such as "big picture" level. Perhaps national consultants should be reminded to share Michigan's examples and topics
- Provide attendee list in advance
- Keep it in Frankenmuth
- Get word out more
- Thank you for bring Paul to the conference. Every schools best friend!
- This conference was very good.
- I need to have a copy of the PPT for my learning style. Is it possible to email the afternoon PPT to all participants? Separate thought - the MAC presentation/teacher panel would be a great keynote or lunch presentation at the Michigan School Testing Conference 2010.