

# Michigan Pupil Accounting & Attendance Association

**TWISTS & TURNS...**

**Getting it Straight!**



## Fall 2023 Conference Agenda

Bay Harbor, MI

September 25-27, 2023





## A Note from the MPAAA Director

Welcome and thank you for attending the MPAAA Conference for the Fall of 2023! We've worked hard to bring you much-needed content and relevant information that should assist you in starting the new school year off on the right foot.



The six certification courses being offered on Monday have been specifically chosen as the ones that the greatest number of our members are still needing as they move towards certification. You should find sessions that will help you on your way to becoming certified in your particular area of certification. In a recent audit of our membership's certifications needs, it was discovered that Introduction to Auditing is highly needed. Please be aware that this class is required for BOTH the Pupil Accountant's track as well as the Auditor's track. Please check your transcript with MSBO to make sure you don't need this course as you decide which certification classes to take this at conference.

Monday and Wednesday mornings, we are offering a PLATED breakfast which will be served in the Sagamore Room, which is the same room we eat our lunch in upstairs. We will then head downstairs to the Arlington Room for our general sessions with our old friends Joel Thiele from CEPI and Brian Ciloski from the MDE, as well as new speakers from the Michigan Attorney General's office who will discuss the newly released Address Confidentiality Program. The breakout sessions Tuesday afternoon include the ever-popular Roundtable sessions.

We have been fortunate again this year to be able to hold virtually EVERY session in both Bay City and in Bay Harbor! We've had to move a few speakers around, but we will hold almost the same conference in both sites.

In the evening please enjoy some of the many excellent restaurants in the area! Check out the article on the back of the agenda for access to The Interactive Dining Guide that our Program Committee has updated for this conference.

As always, the Board of MPAAA, as well as Jody and myself, are anxious to be of any assistance that you should need. Please look for our red lanyards and let us know how we can be of assistance. Thanks and have an excellent conference!

### MPAAA Mission Statement...

The Michigan Pupil Accounting and Attendance Association (MPAAA) provides leadership, support, and training related to data management and educational accountability in public schools within the State of Michigan.

### Our Vision...

Michigan's educational community is well trained, informed, and prepared for the challenge of an ever changing, data driven educational and regulatory environment.

### Our Core Values...

What do we believe drives our work for the Association? MPAAA has highlighted the following areas of focus for our Association's work on behalf of our membership.

- To inform and educate our membership through training
- Attendance and accountability
- Data collection and accountability

## 2023-2024 Executive Board Members

President	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD
President-Elect	Roberta Farina, Macomb ISD
Past President	Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD
Secretary	Tasha Speck, Owosso Public Schools
Treasurer	Janell Craig, Oakland Schools
Marketing & Membership Chair	Jan Jenema, MI School for the Deaf
Sergeant at Arms	Holly Scott, Holt Public Schools
Pupil Acct'g. Auditor Representative	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD
Data Specialist Representative	LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa ISD
Pupil Acct'g LEA/PSA Representative	Kelly Ballor, Mid Michigan Leadership Academy
Member at Large	Nicole Snyder, Calhoun ISD
Member at Large	Efreida Day, Muskegon Area ISD
Member at Large	Tracy Clawson, Allegan Public Schools
Executive Director	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA
Executive Assistant	Jody Lukins, MPAAA
CEPI Representatives	Trina Anderson, Office of Integration & Support
	Joel Thiele, PK-12 Student Services Manager
	Brian Ciloski, State Aid and School Finance
	Tina Foote, OEAA
	Caitlin Hengsbach, Office of Financial Mgmt.
MDE Representatives	

## 2023-2024 Program Committee Members

Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD (Chair)	Dawn Fults, Genesee ISD
Tasha Speck, Owosso Public Schools (Co-Chair)	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD
Christian Anderson, Macro Connect	Christina Hay, Northwest Education Services
Randi Bassett, Holt Public Schools	Jan Jenema, MI School for the Deaf
Coleen Billings, Ann Arbor Public Schools	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD
Mindy Blaschka, Portland Public Schools	Amy Larson, Northwest Education Services
Mary Lynn Bowen, National Heritage Academies	Jody Lukins, MPAAA
Kim Browning, Bay-Arenac ISD	Barb Massie, Oxford Community Schools
Tracy Clawson, Allegan Public Schools	Sarah Mohler, Oakland Schools
Heidi Cuthbert, Berrien RESA	Vestita Ortiz, Michigan Online Schools
Efreida Day, Muskegon ISD	Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD
Linda Dehooghe, Lakeview Public Schools	Cari Jo Roberts, Kalkaska Public Schools
Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Holly Scott, Holt Public Schools
Sandra Dukhie, Wayne RESA	Lisa Senk, Bay-Arenac Community Schools
Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools	Becky Sowle, CEPI
Roberta Farina, Macomb ISD	LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa ISD
Pamela Frazier, Covert Public Schools	Joel Thiele, CEPI
	Dawn Valdez, Lakeshore Public Schools

# Session Descriptions

**25e Claims – The Process** (1.5 Hours) – Section 25e is here to stay...This session runs through the process of applying for Section 25e funding through student movement/transfer between districts, outlining what is needed to submit to your auditor and required timelines. *Presenters – Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD & Becky Sowle, CEPI*

**Address Confidentiality Program** (1.5 Hours) – This new program allows families that need to keep their address confidential to have a ‘faux’ address assigned to them by the Michigan Attorney General’s office. This session will discuss the requirements of this new law and how it will affect data within your student record systems. *Presenter – Kimberly Watts, Office of the Attorney General*

**Auditor’s Year** (3.0 Hours) – New pupil accounting auditors are guided through an entire calendar year timeline! Learn about regulated due dates and the pre-work needed to meet those deadlines. All state-level reporting and auditing work will be covered to ensure a thorough understanding of how the various audits intermesh during the year. (Certification track: PAA). *Presenters – Roberta Farina, Macomb ISD & Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD*

**CEPI Update** (1 Hour) – This must-attend session is a general session just for that reason! This session will cover what is new at CEPI and what you need to know about current and upcoming collections. *Presenter – Joel Thiele, CEPI*

**Data Hub Session** (1.5 Hours) – Schools have a variety of data systems and by nature they don’t talk very well. The Michigan Data Hub is working to make it easier to get data between those systems, which is proving to provide a variety of benefits. Included in these benefits are enhanced capabilities for state reporting such as: the ability to automatically look up student UICs, determine if a student is currently Special Ed, and to check your data for errors against CEPI’s data rules. EEM Integration and the automated flow of M-STEP data will also be covered. *Presenter – LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa Area ISD*

**Data Quality I** (3.0 Hours) – A culture of data quality is the belief that good data is an integral part of teaching, learning, and operating your school. Data Quality I provides the initial foundational building blocks related to creating a culture of data quality. Identify the components of data quality, factors affecting data quality, collaboration opportunities, security and confidentiality, and the elements of a data audit. (Certification track: PAA/PAS/SED). *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

**Days & Hours** (1.5 Hours) – What counts? How do you handle passing time? How do you calculate hours? This session is both nuts and bolts of the basics of Days and Hours and includes an

# Session Descriptions (cont'd)

opportunity for auditors and district staff to hear how 'the other half' lives. An overview of current requirements as they relate to the school district calendars is also included. *Presenters – Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools*

**GAD Audit Window** (1.5 Hours) – This presentation will cover the basics of the Graduation and Dropout application (GAD), focusing on the Audit Window, including how to accurately report the Exit Status of your students. *Presenters – Efreida Day, Muskegon ISD & Becky Sowle, CEPI*

**Google Sheets** (1.5 Hours) – This session will review Google Sheets for those new to the software. Emphasis on how it compares with Excel and how the multi-user abilities of Sheets allows for greater collaboration with those within and outside of your District. *Presenter – Matt Santala, Oxford Community Schools*

**Homeless Students - The Rules and Requirements** (1.5 hours) - Jump into the weeds on what is required to ensure that students experiencing homelessness have the right to a free, appropriate public education here in Michigan. The presenter will walk you through the McKinney-Vento Homeless Assistance Act and help you understand what providing appropriate services to your most vulnerable students means. *Presenter – Irma Lopez-Barajas, MDE*

**Introduction to Auditing** (3 hours) – **NOTE: THIS SESSION IS ALSO REQUIRED FOR THE PUPIL ACCOUNTING CERTIFICATION TRACK. MANY OF YOU STILL NEED THIS COURSE!** This introduction to pupil accounting auditing focuses on learning the basics of preparing for an audit, acronyms, quality control reviews and tips related to the audit narrative. Embedded in this session are tips on ways to connect and work with various officials within the Michigan Department of Education (Certification track: PAA/PAS). *Presenter – Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD*

**Intro to CEPI** (3 hours) – The Center for Educational Performance and Information (CEPI) staff will provide an in-depth overview of submissions impacting a variety of CEPI applications. These include the Michigan Student Data System (MSDS), the School Infrastructure Database (SID), Financial Information Database (FID), Educational Entity Master (EEM), Graduation and Dropout Application (GAD) and Registry for Educational Personnel (REP). Information about the P-20 Longitudinal Data System may be included as needed. (Certification track: PAA/PAS/SED). *Presenters – Robert Hovenkamp & Becky Sowle, CEPI*

**Legislative Update** – This session will provide an update on legislation that passed and/or is pending this year that affects pupil accounting, auditing, and data submissions. The School Aid Act proposed legislation for 2023-2024 will be highlighted. *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

# Session Descriptions (cont'd)

**Macomb MSDS** – This session will walk you through processing your data to get it ready to go to the state, relying heavily on the abilities of the Macomb MISDmsds tool. *Presenters – Kristen Depaolis & Danielle Bridges, Macomb ISD*

**Organizational Applications** – Learn how student data points are collected and how they are used by both internal and external customers from a Technology Director's perspective. Some of the topics the program will encompass are the various data points required (e.g., attendance, pupil accounting, discipline, tardy, scheduling, immunization, and Special Education, etc.), internal and external data submission and reporting requirements. The presentation will also review the attributes required of a comprehensive student management information system including both a centralized and decentralized approach. Quality data and data warehousing will also be discussed. (Certification track: SED). *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

**PA Records Retention** – You are required to work with and submit a lot of documents created by the state. This session on records retention explains what the various documents you work with are, and what the retention requirements are for each. Emphasis will be placed on electronic records. *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

**Prepping for CRDC** – The 2021/22 Civil Rights Data Collection will be happening this fall or winter. This session will prepare you for your part in the process and what you can do in your district to get ready. *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

**Pupil Accounting Legislative Primer** – Understanding the processes and procedures of pupil accounting requires a basic understanding of school funding, including knowledge of the State School Aid Act, the School Code, and Administrative Rules and how these elements intertwine and provide the cornerstone that drives the content of the Pupil Accounting Manual and the Pupil Auditing Manual. (Certification track: PAA/PAS). *Presenter – Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD*

**Pupil Accountants Roundtable** – This session for Pupil Accounting Specialists provides pupil accounting specialists with critical information needed to implement, maintain, and support a strong, thoughtful pupil accounting department within a public school district or a public school academy. Your experience, input and participation are welcome here! *Presenters – Kelly Ballor, Mid-Michigan Leadership Academy & LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa Area ISD*

**Pupil Auditors Roundtable** – Learn from experts the critical information needed to create and manage pupil auditing functions that offers district staff with clear guidelines and appropriate

# Session Descriptions (cont'd)

support mechanisms. We will work through many difficult scenarios that have stumped us over the years. Be prepared to participate! *Presenter – Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD*

**Residency: The Rules & Reporting** – Learn the ins-and-outs of residency. What counts, what does not count, and what documentation is needed to MAKE it count. *Presenter – Sandra Dukhie, Wayne RESA*

**Residency Codes** – This new session focuses on the codes used to report student residency and the ways that reporting affects their status within CEPI, MDE, and your District. *Presenter – Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD*

**Special Ed 101** – Join a panel of experts who will review the basics of Special Education. They will parse the various names each group of students is educated under and what the reporting requirements are for each. *Presenters – Sean McLaughlin, Nancy Rotarius & Ann Walton, OSE MDE*

**State Agency Panel** – Receive an introduction to state agency personnel from CEPI and MDE (including Office of the Audits, Office of State Aid and School Finance, etc.), who create and/or implement the business rules, administrative rules, and other processes affecting district, ISD staff or contracted auditors.

**State Aid Explained** – Do you ever wonder why you do what you do? Does this little form with a handful of students on it really do anything? Learn how the impact of State Aid Funding affects your district and the impact of your reporting accuracy affects how much funding each district receives through pupil accounting. *Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

**State Aid Update** – Hear about the latest updates and any new regulations and rules that may affect your district. *Presenters – Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD*

**XML Explained** – Does working directly with an XML file drive you crazy? Yep, us too! The session will concentrate on tools that make the process of working with, editing and (most importantly) proofing an XML file easier to do. *Presenter – LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa Area ISD*



<b>SUNDAY</b>	<b>Registration Open 4:00 - 6:00 PM</b>			
<b>MONDAY</b>	<b>Registration Open 7:00 - 9:00 AM</b>			
<b>BREAKFAST 7:30 - 8:30 AM — SAGAMORE ROOM (Upstairs)</b>				
<b>8:30—10:00 AM</b>	<b>Morning Certification Classes/Breakout Sessions</b>			
<b>Time/Track</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Room</b>
PAA	Auditor's Year	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD & Roberta Farina, Macomb ISD	Nicole Snyder	Cushman Boardroom
PAA, PAS, SED	Pupil Accounting Legislative Primer	Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD	Dawn Valdez	Arlington
SED	Organizational Applications	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Kelly Ballor	Occidental
	GAD Audit Window	Becky Sowle, CEPI & Efreida Day, Muskegon ISD	Tasha Speck	Clifton North
	Google Sheets	Matt Santala, Oxford Community Schools	LeAnn Szymanski	Clifton South
<b>BREAK 10:00 - 10:15 AM — Arlington Pre-function</b>				
<b>10:15 AM—11:45 PM</b>	<b>Morning Breakout Sessions</b>			
PAA	Auditor's Year	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD & Roberta Farina, Macomb ISD	Nicole Snyder	Cushman Boardroom
PAA, PAS, SED	Pupil Accounting Legislative Primer	Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD	Dawn Valdez	Arlington
SED	Organizational Applications	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Kelly Ballor	Occidental
	Macomb MSDS	Danielle Bridges & Kristen Depaolis, Macomb ISD	Tracy Clawson	Clifton South
	Special Ed 101	Sean McLaughlin, Nancy Rotarius & Ann Walton, MDE	Kathi Thornton	Clifton North
<b>LUNCH 11:45 - 12:45 PM — SAGAMORE ROOM (Upstairs)</b>				
<b>12:45—2:15 PM</b>	<b>Afternoon Certification Classes/Breakout Sessions</b>			
PAS, SED	Data Quality 1	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Kelly Ballor	Occidental
PAA, PAS, SED	Intro to CEPI	Becky Sowle & Robert Hovenkamp, CEPI	Efreida Day	Clifton North
PAA, PAS	Intro to Auditing	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD	Roberta Farina	Clifton South
	Residency Codes	Shannon Rea, C.O.O.R. ISD	Nicole Snyder	Arlington
<b>BREAK 2:15 - 2:30 PM— Arlington Pre-function</b>				
<b>2:30—4:00 PM</b>	<b>Afternoon Breakout Sessions/Certification Classes (Cont'd)</b>			
PAS, SED	Data Quality 1	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Kelly Ballor	Occidental
PAA, PAS, SED	Intro to CEPI	Becky Sowle & Robert Hovenkamp, CEPI	Efreida Day	Clifton North
PAA, PAS	Intro to Auditing	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD	Roberta Farina	Boardroom
	Homeless Students—The Rules & Requirements	Irma Lopez-Barajas, MDE	Kathi Thornton	Clifton South
	XML Explained	LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa Area ISD	N/A	Arlington

**TUESDAY**      **Registration Open 7:30 - 9:00 AM**

**BREAKFAST/COMMITTEE MEETINGS 7:30 - 8:30 AM — ARLINGTON ROOM**

<b>8:30—10:15 AM      General Sessions—Ballroom</b>				
<b>Time</b>	<b>Session</b>	<b>Presenter</b>	<b>Facilitator</b>	<b>Room</b>
8:30—8:45 AM	Welcome	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD	Rob Dickinson	Arlington Room
8:45—10:00 AM	State Aid Update	Carrie Haubenstricker, Genesee ISD	Rob Dickinson	Arlington Room

**BREAK 10:00 - 10:15 AM— Arlington Pre-function**

10:15—11:00 AM	CEPI Update	Joel Thiele, CEPI	Kathi Thornton	Arlington Room
11:00 AM—12:00 PM	Address Confidentiality Program	Kimberly Watts, Attorney General's Office	Kathi Thornton	Arlington Room

**LUNCH 12:00 - 1:00 PM — SAGAMORE ROOM (Upstairs)**

<b>1:00—2:30 PM      Afternoon Breakout Sessions</b>				
	Days & Hours	Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools	Carrie Haubenstricker	Arlington Room
	Data Hub Session	LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa ISD	Kelly Ballor	Occidental
	25e Claims - The Process	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD & Becky Sowle, CEPI	Nicole Snyder	Clifton North
	PA Records Retention	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Efreida Day	Clifton South

**BREAK 2:30 - 2:45 PM— Arlington Pre-function**

<b>2:45—4:15 PM      Afternoon Breakout/Certification Classes (Cont'd)</b>				
	Residency: The Rules & Reporting	Sandra Dukhie, Wayne RESA	Robert Farina	Clifton South
	Pupil Accountants Roundtable	Kelly Ballor, Mid Michigan Leadership Academy & LeAnn Szymanski, Ottawa ISD	Tracy Clawson	Occidental
	Pupil Auditors Roundtable	Barbette Lane, Wexford-Missaukee ISD	Nicole Snyder	Clifton North
	Prepping for CRDC	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A	Arlington



**LIFE IS LIKE A ROLLERCOASTER, FULL OF UPS AND DOWNS.  
EMBRACE THE TWISTS AND TURNS AND ENJOY THE RIDE!  
~UNKNOWN**

8:30—12:00 PM **General Sessions—Ballroom**

Time	Session	Presenter	Facilitator	Room
8:30—9:30 AM	State Aid Explained	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Kathi Thornton	Arlington Room
9:30—10:30 AM	Legislative Update	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	Carrie Haubenstricker	Arlington Room

## BREAK 10:30 - 10:45 AM Arlington Pre-function

10:45 AM—12:00 PM	State Agency Panel	MDE, CEPI Staff	Carrie Haubenstricker	Arlington Room
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12:00 PM — CONFERENCE ENDS. Safe Travels!

## Committee Membership!

One of the most vital links that MPAAA maintains with its member community are the committees that we utilize to accomplish much of the association's planning and accomplishments. We have committees that cover several areas of both Pupil Accounting and Auditing, as well as 'functional' committees that assist in the management of the Association. **If you are interested in joining any of the committees below, please email our Director, Rob Dickinson, at [rob@mpaaa.org](mailto:rob@mpaaa.org).**

### Auditor Advisory Committee

This group works to review recent changes in auditing requirements, update pupil accounting forms and documents, and continuously strives to encourage more consistent auditing practices across the state. It is chaired by the Auditor's Representative.

### Finance Committee

This group assists in the development of the budget for MPAAA and review and assist with developing financial controls, reporting, and investment opportunities. It is chaired by the Board's Treasurer.

### LEA/Data Committee

This committee reviews and investigates recent changes in pupil accounting and data reporting rules and regulations with an eye towards keeping members well informed. It is chaired by the MPAAA LEA and Data Representatives.

### Marketing Committee

This Committee is responsible for developing membership opportunities, increasing membership and member participation, and publicize and market

MPAAA as the premier provider of information and training related to pupil accounting and educational data collection. It is chaired by the Marketing Chair.

### Program Committee

This Committee plans and assists in development of MPAAA educational opportunities, including conferences, workshops, trainings, seminars, web-based learning options, print materials and MSBO certification. It is chaired by the Past President.

### Strategic Planning Committee

This group is responsible for review and revision of the strategic plan for MPAAA and for the bi-annual review and recommended revisions to MPAAA by-laws. It is chaired by the MPAAA Sergeant-at-Arms.

### Technology Committee

This committee assists the Association to maintain high standards of technology utilization in its operations and keep abreast of current technology developments. It is chaired by a MPAAA Board member.

# Delectable Offerings

## Monday

### Plated Breakfast Sagamore Room



Cinnamon Swirl French Toast  
(Gluten Free Available)  
Sliced Fruit  
Scrambled Eggs  
Juices, Coffee & Tea



### Break

Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks

### Plated Lunch Sagamore Room



Grand Traverse Wrap  
Turkey Club Wrap  
Chicken Caesar Salad  
Dessert  
Coffee, Hot Tea & Iced Tea

### Break

Isn't it Sundae?  
Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks

## Tuesday

### Breakfast Buffet Arlington Room

Fresh Scrambled Eggs  
Bacon & Turkey Sausage  
Hash Browns  
Danish Pastries, Bagels,  
Cinnamon Rolls  
Yogurt Parfait  
Juices, Coffee & Tea

### Break

Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks



### Plated Lunch Sagamore Room

Roast Beef Wrap  
California Chicken Wrap  
Broccoli & Cheddar Soup  
Dessert  
Coffee, Hot Tea & Iced Tea

### Break

South of the Border  
Coffee, Tea & Soft Drinks



## Wednesday

### Plated Breakfast Sagamore Room



Belgian Waffles with Blueberry or Strawberry Compote  
(Gluten Free Available)  
Sliced Fruit ~ Bacon  
Juices, Coffee & Tea

### Break

Beverage Service



# Are You Certified?



- ⇒ **Pupil Accounting Specialist**
- ⇒ **Pupil Accounting Auditor**
- ⇒ **Specialist in Educational Data**

MPAAA, in conjunction with Michigan School Business Officials (MSBO), is pleased to offer our members the opportunity to gain certification as either a Pupil Accounting Specialist, a Pupil Accounting Auditor, or as a Specialist in Educational Data. These widely recognized certifications show your current and potential employers that you are proficient in your area of expertise, and can help you promote yourself and your career.

The certifications each have a required set of classes that need to be completed within a 3-year timeframe from the date you sign your letter of commitment for your desired educational track. The courses are designed to cover the basics of the particular track you are pursuing and are intended for those in their first 1-5 years in their job. For those with more than 5 years of experience, there is a grandfathering option that may allow you to waive some of the course requirements. The courses for each certification take 50 hours to complete, and there is a 90-hour continuing education requirement over 5 years once you have your certification.

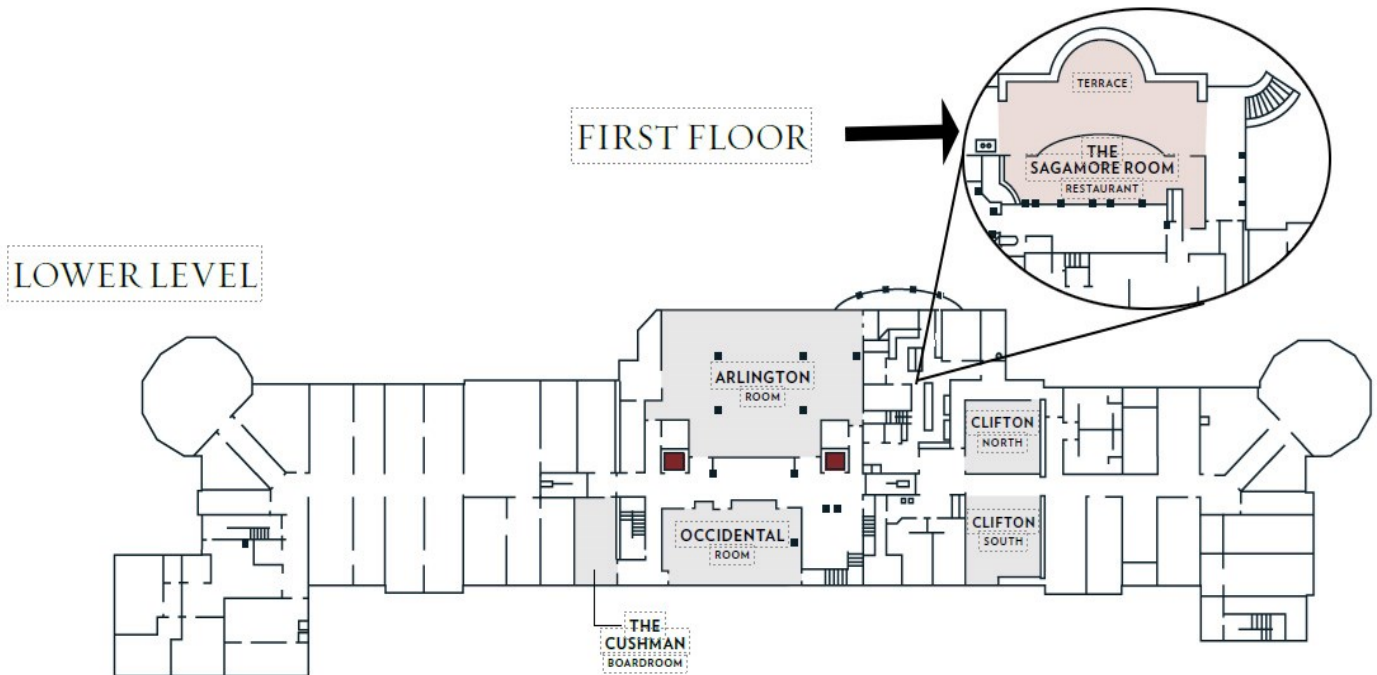
To begin a certification, you need to be a member of MPAAA, as most of the courses you will take are offered either at our conferences, boot camps, or during stand-alone workshops. There are a few additional courses that are part of MSBO's curriculum that are only offered at MSBO functions. You will also need to join MSBO when you are ready to finish your track and acquire your official certification. If you are unable to complete all the required courses within 3 years, there are extension options available.

You can find specific information on each of the certification tracks, as well as additional information, at the MSBO certification website, <http://www.msbo.org/msbo-certification-program>. Application forms, letters of commitment, and grandfathering forms are all available on this site. You can always contact the MPAAA office at (517) 853-1413, or email our Executive Director, Rob Dickinson ([rob@mpaaa.org](mailto:rob@mpaaa.org)) for assistance.

Keep in mind that if you are actively working on a certification, or already have one and you want this conference to count towards your continuing education renewal, it's important that you complete the blue certification form and hand it in BEFORE you leave the conference! If you try to send it in later, we won't be able to give you credit for the time and courses you've completed.



# Bay Harbor Conference Map



## Thank You to Our State Agency Partners

One of MPAAA's primary goals is to maintain and strengthen the bonds between the Association and the State Agencies with whom we work. Sometimes one of the most thankless jobs is to stand before our membership and deliver news on legislative changes that mandate new collection requirements on our members. We are fortunate that our State Agency Partners take the time out of their busy schedules to make sure that our membership is kept in the loop on these new requirements. The Association would like to thank the following MDE and CEPI staff for attending or contributing to our conference and making themselves available to our members:

Jessica Beagle  
Brian Ciloski  
Anne Hansknecht  
Robert Hovenkamp

Irma Lopez-Barajas  
Sean McLaughlin  
Colleen O'Connor  
Jose Quintero

Nancy Rotarius  
Becky Sowle  
Gloria Suggitt  
Joel Thiele

Janet Timbs  
Ann Walton  
Kimberly Watts

All of these MDE and CEPI staff will be wearing yellow lanyards for their nametags, so please join us in thanking them for their time and attendance.

# Fall 2024 Conference Changes

MPAAA is excited to announce new locations AND formats for our fall conferences beginning in the fall of 2024.

For our lower peninsula members we will be meeting in a new location - The Bavarian Inn Lodge in beautiful Frankenmuth, Michigan! The 2024 fall lower peninsula conference will be held September 16 – 18 at this new site. We'll also be at the Bavarian Inn in 2025.

For our upper peninsula members, we've taken a new approach to meeting your needs. We've heard that getting away for several days is hard given the smaller staff sizes in your districts, so we're coming to you! In 2024, we'll hold a one-day fall conference at the Marquette Alger RESA on Monday, September 23rd. This event will have a general update session in the morning and a choice of certification courses in the afternoon. We'll hold the exact same event again the following day (Tuesday, 9/24) at the Island Resort outside Escanaba. We're hopeful that holding the conference twice on different days makes it easier for you to get away from the office. For the fall of 2025, we'll hold the UP conferences in Marquette and in Sault St. Marie.

For those of you in the UP that would prefer the full conference experience, the sessions in Frankenmuth are, of course, available to you as well if you would like to make the scenic drive to lower Michigan! We hope this new formatting for our fall conferences gives our members, particularly those in the UP, a renewed interest in making use of MPAAA resources.



## CALLING ALL STARS

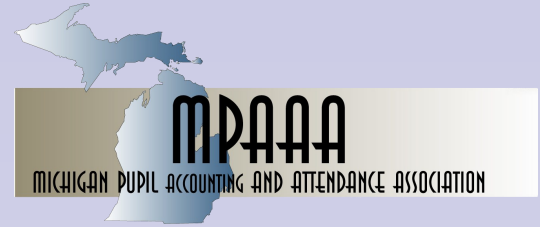
Do you stand proud in the knowledge you have and work that you do? Do you love helping others learn about your area of expertise? MPAAA is actively looking for its next generation of presenters for its three yearly conferences! If you've ever attended a session and thought "I could be up there doing that" then we want to hear from you! If you want more information on the process to become a speaker, please give contact Rob at [Rob@MPAAA.org](mailto:Rob@MPAAA.org).

## MPAAA Mentor Program Sign Up!

In early August, a survey invitation was sent to all MPAAA members to ask if they would like to participate in the 2023-2024 mentor program. We're looking for people new to the job and eager to learn the details of pupil accounting, as well as those willing to guide new pupil accounting and data specialists in the state reporting process. While that sign-up time has passed, and we're currently placing mentors with mentees, it's not too late to join in!

If you would like to have a mentor assigned to you, or you are willing to BE a mentor for someone, please send an email to [rob@mpaaa.org](mailto:rob@mpaaa.org). Keep in mind that the program is only open to CURRENT MPAAA members.

# General Information



## Conference Goal

The goal of this and every conference is to provide current information for ISD Auditors and for local staff who are responsible for pupil accounting, state reporting and data collections. Each conference is a must-attend for anyone seeking certification as a Pupil Accounting Specialist, Pupil Accounting Auditor or Specialist in Educational Data.

## Become a Member!

Not a member? If you are not a member and would like to take advantage of lower conference and workshop rates and receive critical news via our website communication system, visit us at [www.mpaaa.org](http://www.mpaaa.org), scroll to the bottom of the page, and click the “Click here to join” link under the Member Area Login heading.

## Conference Evaluations

The evaluations are an important tool used to make future conferences even better. You will receive your evaluation via email shortly following the conference. Believe it or not, we actually do sit down as a committee and read through each of your comments. And although we cannot fix everything, we do our best to improve with each and every conference. We really do appreciate your time in completing these online evaluations! Thank you!

## State Continuing Education Clock Hours

If your district **requires** you to have a certain number of State Continuing Education Clock Hours submitted to MDE (typically for administrators, counselors, teachers), please check that box at the top of the card. If you are working on MSBO certification **only** and do not need the clock hours, check the MSBO certification only box on the cards. This will allow your credits to be applied correctly. Please make sure to grab the blue SCECH card at registration and return the completed form before you leave on Wednesday. Collection boxes will be available at the registration desk.

## Sunset Cruise!

Join us on Monday evening aboard the newly commissioned Harbor Princess as she cruises us around beautiful Lake Michigan for a sunset cruise. This will be a great opportunity for networking or just catching up with old friends. A great play list, with some Jimmy Buffet for sure, and a cash bar will surely add to the festive occasion.



## Upcoming Events

Throughout the year, MPAAA offers many virtual, in-person, and recorded training sessions. MPAAA looks forward to meeting your training needs. For scheduled workshops, certification courses, and Bootcamps check our website by scanning the QR code below or visit us at [www.mpaaa.org](http://www.mpaaa.org).



## Dining Guide

Looking for places to eat while at conference? Check out the Interactive Dining Guide by clicking the link on or electronic agenda or scanning the QR Code below: [Interactive Dining Guide.pdf](#) sent in MPAAA's most recent Newsblast.



## Spring 2024 MPAAA Conference

Join us in the spring of 2024 at the beautiful Grand Traverse Resort for our expanded Spring MPAAA Conference! We look forward to seeing you there!

Grand Traverse Resort  
Traverse City, MI  
May 6 – 8, 2024



## Twists & Turns — Getting it Straight!

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