Fall 2025 - Upper Peninsula Conference (9/22-24)

Date	Start	End	Session / Track	Title	Presenter	Facilitator
Sunday, 9/21	4:00 PM	6:00 PM		Pre-registration Open	Tracy Clawson, Lighthouse Academy	NA
Monday, 9/22	7:00 AM	8:30 AM	Breakfast	**Mentor program Tables at breakfast**		
	7:00 AM	9:00 AM		Registration	Tracy Clawson, Lighthouse Academy	NA
	8:30 AM	8:45 AM		Welcome / General Membership Meeting	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA and Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools	N/A
	8:45 AM	9:00 AM	Break			
Breakout Sessions	9:00 AM	10:30 AM	PAS, PAA	Everything You Need to Know about Permits and Compliance	Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD	Ingrid Seruga
			All tracks	Understanding and Calculating FTE under R340.1754, 1755 & 1862	Mark Kuipers, MiLEAP & Colleen O'Connor, MiLEAP	Luke Kaiser
			PAS, SED	CEPI 101	Anne Hansknecht, CEPI	Janell Craig
			SED	Use of Technology in our Schools	Ross Lemke	Kathi Thornton
			PAS	PAS Yearly Timeline/Planning	Coleen Billings, Ann Arbor Schools, Efreida Day, Muskegon ISD, Linda DeHooghe, Utica Schools & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools	Kelly Dumas
	10:30 AM	10:45 AM	Break			
Breakout Sessions	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	PAS, PAA	Special Education Panel	Sean McLaughlin, MDE & Team	Carrie Haubenstricker
			All tracks	FERPA 101	Ross Lemke	Leah Cameron
			All tracks	Excel Training	Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD	Coleen Billings
			PAS, SED	Michigan DataHub Student State Reporting Features You Can Count On	Melissa Tront, MiDataHub Network	Linda DeHooghe
			PAS	Enrolling Students with Foreign Transcripts	Kelly Alvarez, MDE & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools	Jillian Dziedzic

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Date	Start	End	Session / Track	Title	Presenter	Facilitator
Monday, 9/22	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	Cert Course (PAA, PAS, SED)	Intro to Pupil Accounting Part 1	Matty McCormick, Dickinson-Iron, ISD & Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools	N/A
	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	Cert Course (PAA,	Data Quality 1	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A
	12:15 PM	1:15 PM	Lunch			
Quick Hits	1:15 PM	2:00 PM	PAS, PAA	GSRP Updates	Dawn Kalkman, MiLEAP & Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD	N/A
			PAS, SED	EL Course Coding & Grad Cohorts	Kelly Alvarez, MDE	Kelly Dumas
			PAS, PAA	Teacher Cert - What Districts Need to Know	Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD	Rob Evans
			PAS, SED	FERPA 201	Ross Lemke	Luke Kaiser
	2:00 PM	2:15 PM	Break			
Quick Hits	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	PAS, PAA	GSRP Updates	Dawn Kalkman, MiLEAP & Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD	Shawna Boyd
			PAS, SED	EL Course Coding & Grad Cohorts	Kelly Alvarez, MDE	Julie Ziesemer
			PAS, PAA	Teacher Cert - What Districts Need to Know	Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD	Ingrid Seruga
			PAS, SED	FERPA 201	Ross Lemke	Luke Kaiser
	2:15 PM	3:45 PM	Cert Course (PAA, PAS, SED)	Intro to Pupil Accounting Part 1	Matty McCormick, Dickinson-Iron, ISD & Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools	N/A
	2:15 PM	3:45 PM	Cert Course (PAA,	Data Quality 1	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A
	3:00 PM	3:15 PM	Break			
	3:15 PM	4:00 PM	PAS, SED	SIS Ask Me Anything	MiStar, Powerschool, Skyward, Synergy, Infinite Campus	MPAAA Board Members
			PAS	Spark Session for Pupil Accountants	Topic Tables	MPAAA Board Members

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Date	Start	End	Session / Track	Title	Presenter	Facilitator
Monday, 9/22			PAA	Idea Exchange for Pupil Auditors	Topic Tables	MPAAA Board Members
Tuesday, 9/23	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Breakfast			
	8:00 AM	9:30 AM	Registration	Registration	Tracy Clawson, Lighthouse Academy	Tracy Clawson
	9:30 AM	10:30 AM	General Session	CEPI Update	Joel Thiele, CEPI	Kelly Dumas
	10:30 AM	10:45 AM	Break			
Breakout Sessions	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	PAS, PAA	Truancy for Pupil Accountants & Auditors	Ingrid Seruga, Ingham ISD & Rob Evans, Ingham ISD	Matty McCormick
			PAS, PAA	Population III Panel	Brian Ciloski, MDE	Jillian Dziedzicjk
			PAS, PAA	Special Education Pupil Accounting Update	MDE Office of Special Education & MiLEAP Staff	Anne Hansknecht
			PAS, SED	REP 101	Caitlin Groom, CEPI	Kathi Thornton
			PAS, SED	Cybersecurity, Make your own luck	Ross Lemke	Luke Kaiser
	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	Cert Course (PAA,	Days and Hours	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A
	10:45 AM	12:15 PM	Cert Course (PAS)	Intro to Pupil Accounting Part 2	Julie Ziesemer, Washtenaw ISD & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools	NA
	12:15 PM	1:15 PM	Lunch			
Quick Hits	1:15 PM	2:00 PM	PAS, PAA	Dual Enrollment	Jeff McNeal, MDE	Shawna Boyd
			PAS, PAA	Tribal Reporting	Nate Beelen, MDE	Dan Kresbaugh
			PAS, SED	SNE/DC/SEBT	Mackenzie Cooper, CEPI	Kathi Thornton
			PAS	Homebound/Hospitalized Requirements	Brian Ciloski, MDE	Carrie Haubenstricker
			All tracks	Communications Best Practices	Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD	N/A
	2:00 PM	2:15 PM	Break			
Quick Hits	2:15 PM	3:00 PM	PAS, PAA	Dual Enrollment	Jeff McNeal, MDE	Shannon Rea
			PAS, PAA	Tribal Reporting	Nate Beelen, MDE	Kathi Thornton

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Date	Start	End	Session / Track	Title	Presenter	Facilitator
Tuesday, 9/23			PAS, SED	SNE/DC/SEBT	Mackenzie Cooper, CEPI	Janell Craig
			PAS	Homebound/Hospitalized Requirements	Brian Ciloski, MDE	Luke Kaiser
			All tracks	Communications Best Practices	Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD	N/A
	2:15 PM	3:45 PM	Cert Course (PAA, PAS)	Days and Hours	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A
	2:15 PM	3:45 PM	Cert Course (PAS)	Intro to Pupil Accounting Part 2	Julie Ziesemer, Washtenaw ISD & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools	N/A
	3:00 PM	3:15 PM	Break			
	3:15 PM	4:00 PM	Turbo Talks	MDE Clinic - Ask the Experts	MDE, CEPI, MiLEAP	MPAAA Board Members
Wednesday, 9/24	7:00 AM	8:30 AM	Breakfast			
	8:30 AM	9:30 AM	General Session	Legislative Update	Rob Dickinson, MPAAA	N/A
	9:30 AM	10:15 AM	General Session	State Aid Update	Brian Ciloski, MDE	Carrie Haubenstricker
	10:15 AM	10:30 AM	Break			
	10:30 AM	12:00 PM	Cert Course (PAA,	State Agency Panel (Introduction to	MDE,CEPI staff	Kelly Dumas
	12:00 PM		Conference Ends			

2025 Upper Peninsula Fall Conference Session Descriptions

CEPI 101 (1.5 Hours): Learn the basics of CEPI submissions, including MSDS, SID, FID, EEM, GAD and REP. *Presenters – Anne Hansknecht, CEPI*

CEPI Updates (1 Hour): This general session will cover what is new at CEPI and what you need to know about current and upcoming collections. *Presenter – Joel Thiele, CEPI*

Communications Best Practices (45 Minutes): In this Quick Hit session you will discuss modern communications and social media, and look at ways to ensure your communications in those channels are clear and effective. *Presenter – Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD*

Cybersecurity: Make Your Own Luck (1.5 Hours): Ever notice how some schools just seem to have bad cyber luck, while others seem to dodge that bullet every time? Well, it may have less to do with luck than you think. In this session, we'll take a look at schools' cybersecurity approaches, trends, and attacker goals to identify things that separate the good, the bad, and the lucky in cyberspace. This session will also have a live demonstration using a simulated school system network where we will show you the tactics hackers use to find that one chink in your armor and lead you to having a very bad day. We will distill security best practices down to a short list of things that your school can do to avoid rolling a 1 on your cybersecurity saving throw. Join us as we take you from WTF to MFA! *Presenter – Ross Lemke, US Department of Education*

Data Quality 1 (3 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 tracks PAA, PAS & SED) *Presenter: Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

Days and Hours (3 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 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. (Certification tracks PAA & PAS) *Presenter: Rob Dickinson, MPAAA*

Dual Enrollment (45 Minutes): This session provides an overview of Dual Enrollment, including the reporting and program requirement aspects of this program. *Presenter –Jeff McNeal, MDE*

EL Course Coding & Grad Cohorts (45 Minutes): Learn some tips for coding your English Learners, as well and your Grad Cohorts for the best outcomes. *Presenter: Kelly Alvarez, MDE*

Enrolling Students with Foreign Transcripts (1.5 Hours): This presentation will review the processes needed to follow for enrolling your students that have school transcripts outside of the United States. *Presenters – Kelly Alvarez, MDE, & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools*

Everything you need to know about Permits and Compliance (1.5 Hours): This session centers around the process of auditing Teacher Certification for Pupil Accounting Auditors. *Presenter: Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD*

Excel Training (1.5 Hours): Come to this session if you are interested in learning how Microsoft Excel can help you in organizing the information you use every day in your job, and the calculations it can do for you to make your job easier. *Presenter – Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD*

FERPA 101 (1.5 Hours): Do you have questions about student privacy? Need to understand what your responsibilities are? Well, we're here to help! Join the U.S. Department of Education's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) for an introductory presentation on the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the principal federal law protecting student privacy. This presentation will introduce you to the fundamentals of FERPA and provide depth and clarity on its application to the school system! This session is intended as an introduction to the law and seeks to balance providing the legal background of the statute with real-world scenarios to which this law applies. *Presenter – Ross Lemke, US Department of Education*

FERPA 201 (45 Minutes): Think you know everything there is to know about the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)? The U.S. Department of Education's Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) is issuing a challenge to all attendees to apply their knowledge to the test! In this session, we will explore a variety of real-world scenarios that concern student privacy and ask you, the audience, to help us work through them. This session provides an excellent forum for discussion of complex issues regarding FERPA and a great space to have your questions answered. Do you think you have what it takes? To that we say, "It depends!" *Presenter – Ross Lemke, US Department of Education*

GSRP Updates (45 Minutes): Learn the ins and outs of the Great Start Readiness Program, updates for 2025, and the needed data reporting for this program. *Presenters: Dawn Kalkman, MiLEAP & Kathi Thornton, Kent ISD*

Homebound/Hospitalized Requirements (45 Minutes): This Quick Hits session will review the requirements needed to report and count this Pop III group of students. *Presenters – Brian Ciloski, MDE*

Idea Exchange for Pupil Auditors (1 Hour): Topic Tables will be available in the room… If you are a Pupil Auditor and would like to share your ideas for your auditing processes, or for a newer auditor looking to have a 'seasoned veteran' share ideas with you, please join us in this session.

Introduction to Pupil Accounting Part 1 (3 Hours): Pupil Accounting I introduces staff new to pupil accounting to the Pupil Accounting Manual (PAM) and requirements related to count days. Included is a review of timelines, enrollment requirements and information about the three student populations as defined by the PAM.
(Certification tracks PAA, PAS & SED) *Presenter: Matty McCormick, Dickinson-Iron ISD & Tasha Speck, Owosso Schools*

Introduction to Pupil Accounting Part 2 (3 Hours): The second in the Introduction to Pupil Accounting series delves into the specific enrollment and membership requirements and how a variety of programs are addressed in the Pupil Accounting Manual. This session provides participants with tips and a template of how to organize their pupil accounting materials. (Certification track PAS) *Presenter: Julie Ziesemer, Washtenaw ISD & Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools*

Legislative Update (1 Hour): This session will provide an update on legislation that passed and/or is pending this year that affects pupil accounting, auditing, and data submissions.
Presenter – Rob Dickinson, MPAAA

MDE Clinic – Ask the Experts (45 Minutes): This session allows members to ask MDE staff quick questions in a 1:1 format. Bring the questions you wish to discuss.

Michigan DataHub Student State Reporting Features You Can Count On (1.5 hours): This session offers a focused exploration of the Michigan DataHub Student State Reporting features, developed in partnership with CEPI. Learn how Michigan DataHub supports key collections such as General Collection and Early Childhood through built-in tools like the MSDS reports, Data Readiness checks, and the Error Checker. We'll review how these tools help identify potential data issues before submission and how they fit into your district's overall state reporting workflow. If you are looking to improve your current process, this session will give you the insight needed to submit clean, accurate data with confidence. *Presenters – Melissa Tront, MiDataHub Network*

Pupil Accounting Specialists: Yearly Timeline/Planning (1.5 Hours): This session for Pupil Accounting Specialists provides important information needed for planning your year of pupil accounting duties. Learn about regulated due dates and the pre-work needed to meet those deadlines.
Presenters – Colleen Billings, Ann Arbor Schools, Efreida Day, Muskegon ISD, Linda DeHooghe, Utica Community Schools, *Kelly Dumas, Warren Consolidated Schools*

Population III Panel (1.5 Hours): The 82/20 rule plays a big role in modern pupil accounting, with Population 3 students (non-traditional students) taking up a disproportionate percentage of your time in pupil accounting and auditing. Join representatives from MDE to discuss these students, and learn what's required to ensure FTE for these students. *Presenters – Brian Ciloski, MDE*

REP 101 (1.5 Hours): This session will review the process of reporting all of the required staff in your district and what you need to know for accurate reporting.
Presenters – Caitlin Groom, CEPI

SIS Ask Me Anything (1 Hour): An opportunity to bring your questions about your district's SIS to the experts. Representatives from several SIS applications will be on hand to field your questions on a 1:1 setting.

SNE, Direct Certification & SEBT (45 Minutes): This Quick Hits session will discuss how the Direct Certification reports can streamline your fall processes in identifying those families that are certified through the Department of Health and Human Services. *Presenter – Mackenzie Cooper, CEPI*

Spark Session for Pupil Accountants (1 Hour): *Topic Tables* will be around the room for members to gather and discuss items of interest and/or concern with other accountants.

Special Education Panel (1.5 Hours) **–** Please bring your questions and concerns to the panel session. Questions will be reviewed and answered by staff present, or possibly referred to MDE-OSE staff not present for response during the State Agency Panel Session on Wednesday morning.
Presenters – MDE & MiLEAP Representatives

Special Education Pupil Accounting Update (1.5 Hours) **–** MDE-OSE staff will discuss recent developments in Special Education and provide insight into future requirements. Balancing the calculation and reporting requirements for Special Education and General Education FTE will be discussed. *Presenters – MDE and MiLEAP Representatives*

State Agency Panel (Intro to State Agency Resources) (1.5 Hours): 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. (Certification track PAA/PAS)

State Aid Update (1 Hour): Hear about the latest updates and any new regulations and rules that may affect your district. *Presenters – Brian Ciloski, MDE*

Teacher Certification – What Districts Need to Know (45 Minutes): An overview of what districts need to know for their record-keeping and reporting to the State. *Presenter: Leah Cameron, Ingham ISD*

Tribal Reporting (45 Minutes): This Quick Hits session covers what districts need to know about Tribal reporting for their district and the requirements for accurate reporting. *Presenter: Nate Beelen, MDE*

Truancy for Pupil Accountants & Auditors (1.5 Hours): This session will provide attendees an opportunity to discuss challenges in student truancy, and discuss some of the methods and processes that are currently in use. *Presenters: Rob Evans, and Ingrid Seruga, Ingham ISD*

Understanding and Calculating FTE under R340.1754/1755/1862 (1.5 Hours): If you work with programs for children under age 5, you know how challenging reporting the data can be. This section will focus on the fine art of reporting the correct FTE for the different programs and reporting requirements for pre-kindergarten children. *Presenters: Mark Kuipers, MDE & Colleen O'Connor, MiLEAP*

Use of Technology in Our Schools (1.5 Hours): Schools are adopting technology at an unprecedented pace — from kiosks, mobile apps, and digital ID systems to facial recognition and AI-powered learning platforms. But with every new tool comes questions: What are the legal guardrails? What are the risks? How do we protect students while embracing innovation?

In this session, Ross Lemke — Director of the Privacy Technical Assistance Center at the U.S. Department of Education — will explore the opportunities and cautions of technology in schools. Drawing from real-world trends, recent lawsuits, and federal guidance, Ross will highlight not just what's possible, but what's responsible. This session will blend practical insights on tools like attendance-tracking systems, facial recognition, and virtual learning platforms with the human element — student trust, parent concerns, and district leadership challenges.

Participants will leave with a clearer understanding of how to navigate the rapidly evolving EdTech landscape, avoid legal missteps, and build transparency and trust with families while leveraging technology to enhance student learning. *Presenter: Ross Lemke, US Department of Education*