

Dear Deborah,

It was great to talk with you today about the possible ways we could work together to provide training for area superintendents and administrators who plan to use the School ADvance Administrator Evaluation System. I commend you on thoughtfully moving forward in implementing an administrator evaluation system that fulfills the new requirements of Michigan’s law. We would be pleased to partner with you and your neighboring districts in implementing a system that leverages the evaluation process to promote professional growth and—ultimately—improve student achievement.

I’ll try to answer questions that district leaders often ask when thinking about scheduling a School ADvance training for their administrators or boards.

1. School ADvance is one of three administrator evaluation systems named for approval in the **pending legislation**. Although anything can happen in the legislative process, we don’t anticipate that will change as the bills move forward. Legislators have been very supportive of the system; School ADvance is the only Michigan-developed, Michigan-supported tool of the three, and likely to be the most economical and adaptive to changing conditions in the state.
2. The best way to learn about the **School ADvance** **tools** (rubrics, guidelines, protocols, timelines, etc.) is through our website at [goschooladvance.com](http://goschooladvance.com/). The information regarding superintendent evaluation specifically can be found at <http://goschooladvance.com/?q=node/105>. It costs only $25/administrator for a license to use the tools to evaluate district-level administrators such as the superintendent, curriculum director, etc. Licenses cost $25/building for principals.
3. The best way to learn about **School ADvance training and support** can be found at <http://goschooladvance.com/?q=node/109>. At present, the costs for Basic Training for Administrators is $325 per administrator (minimum 20 administrators). The cost for Board/Superintendent training is $1,000 per district, and includes two 3-hour workshops for the entire board (Minimum 4 boards, if not part of a scheduled Basic Training for Administrators). Custom training for fewer than four boards CAN be considered but at a higher cost (to be negotiated, depending on trainer availability).

Finally, districts who need more information to make decisions around administrator evaluation and training might find these resources to be helpful:

* [Why School ADvance?](file:///%5C%5CFPC_CGDATA01_SERVER%5CCGDATA01%5CUSERS%5CSTAFF%5CDSNYDER%5CGroupWise%5C%E2%80%A2%09http%3A%5Cgoschooladvance.com%5Csites%5Cdefault%5Cfiles%5CSA%20Why%20School%20ADvance%202014_0.pdf) (with an added section on “Why schedule training now?”)
* A [recent MASA eLeader article](http://gomasa.org/news/school-advance-administrator-evaluation-new-workshops-announced) might give you some insight into what a School ADvance training involves, as well as gives you some possible dates of other scheduled trainings in Lansing and around Michigan.
* Our [frequently asked questions](http://goschooladvance.com/faq-page) section on the website.

If you or your neighboring districts still have questions, feel free to call Linda Wacyk at 517-327-9268 and I will try to answer your questions. When you are ready to schedule/register for a training, you can go to the “Getting Started” tab on the School ADvance website and request a license, schedule to host, or register for a training.