

MiNOC 12c-Consolidation Grant Annual Report



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Table of Contents

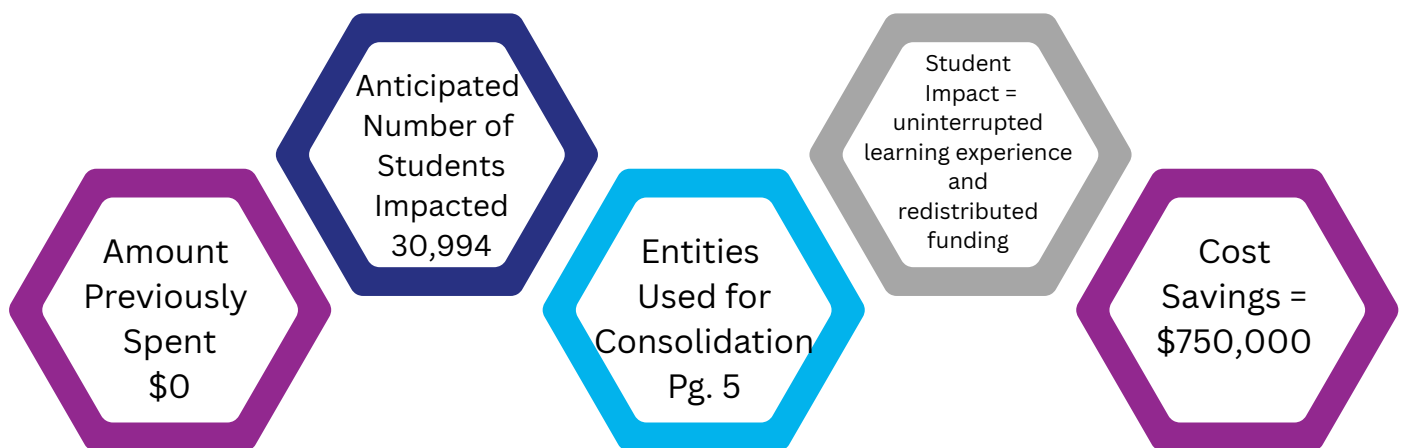
| | |
|---|---|
| <u>Executive Summary</u> | 3 |
| <u>Introduction: Why? How? What?</u> | 4 |
| <u>Consolidation of Services</u> | 4 |
| <u>Impact</u> | 5 |
| <u>Collaboration</u> | 5 |
| <u>Cost Savings, Return on Investment, Value Propositions</u> | 6 |

Executive Summary

Pursuant to Michigan Compiled Law (MCL) 388.1612c - Consolidation and infrastructure fund; grants for consolidation of services identified in a feasibility study under MCL 388.1611x; infrastructure emergencies, section 5 states “a report must be submitted to the Michigan Department of Education by not later than June 30, 2025 and include the following:

- The amount previously spent on each consolidation of service in the prior fiscal year.
- The number of students impacted by the consolidation or consolidation of services.
- The vendors, third-party entities, or other educational entities used for consolidation or consolidation of services.
- The impact on student learning attributable to money reallocated as a result of the consolidation or consolidation service or services.
- A total cost savings produced as a result of the consolidation or the consolidation of services.”

This executive summary provides the highlight of each of these components. The full report provides additional detail and context describing the services, supports, and impact of the consolidation. This annual program and financial expenditure reports align the work of the consolidation grants to the anticipated findings from the 11x feasibility study. In order for the cost savings and return on investment to be fully realized, full implementation is necessary over the course of the next two years and beyond.



Introduction

WHY?

Consolidate existing Network Operations Center service to increase effectiveness and equitable network access for five Michigan ISDs and 27 school districts. This initiative aims to enhance network reliability, improve resource utilization, and reduce operational costs across participating districts.

HOW?

The Education Technology Association (ETA) currently supports four ISDs and 17 school districts. With the 12c grant, the ETA will consolidate with Clare Gladwin RESD, including its five local districts. This expansion will also enable the ETA to provide services to districts within the ETA member ISDs, COOR ISD, Manistee ISD, West Shore ESD, and Wexford-Missaukee ISD. The merger with Clare Gladwin's existing staff, along with a new hire, will create a more robust team capable of managing the increased responsibilities and broader scope of services.

WHAT?

The MiNOC initiative stands as a pioneering example, demonstrating to other Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) that the consolidation of services at the ISD level is not merely feasible but highly advantageous. This approach promises to deliver a significantly elevated standard of services to students, staff, and communities, while simultaneously fostering long-term sustainability and efficiency. By centralizing resources and expertise, MiNOC will showcase a model that optimizes operational costs, streamlines administrative processes, and ensures equitable access to high-quality educational support. This initiative will serve as a blueprint for other ISDs seeking to enhance their service delivery, achieve greater resource allocation, and build a more resilient and responsive educational infrastructure for the future.

CONSOLIDATION OF SERVICES

The Michigan Network Operations Center (MiNOC) initiative represents a pivotal stride towards optimizing and democratizing network accessibility across various educational institutions within the state. By strategically consolidating existing Network Operations Center (NOC) services, MiNOC aims to dramatically enhance both the effectiveness and equitable distribution of critical network resources. This comprehensive consolidation directly benefits a significant portion of Michigan's educational infrastructure, encompassing five key Intermediate School Districts (ISDs) and a substantial number of 27 individual school districts. The core objective of MiNOC is to streamline operations, improve response times to network issues, and ultimately ensure that all participating ISDs and school districts have robust, reliable, and fair access to the digital backbone essential for modern education.

Impact

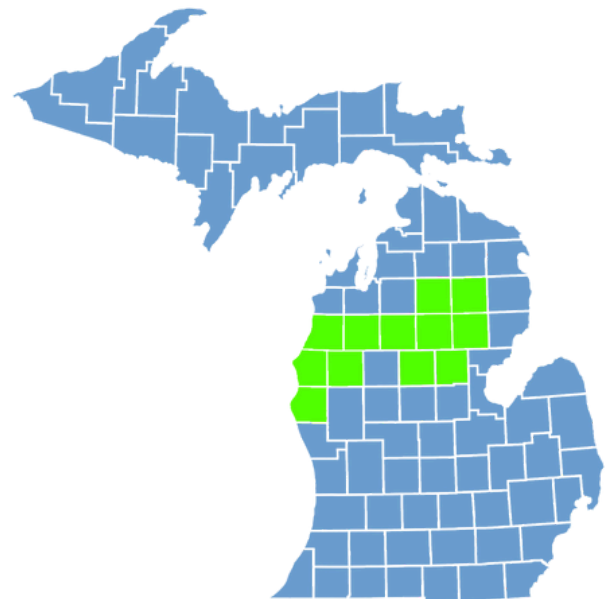
With a profound impact on central Michigan, The MiNOC services reach **30,994 students**. This extensive reach is achieved through strategic partnerships with **32 school districts** and **5 Intermediate School Districts (ISDs)**, spanning across **12 counties**. MiNOC is committed to ensuring the continuous and uninterrupted learning experience for all students, saving districts funding to be redistributed to direct learning services.

Collaboration

The list of vendors, third-party entities, and other educational entities are working collaboratively to consolidate services for the successful implementation of the 12c-Consolidation MiNoc grant.

- **Michigan Association of Intermediate School Administrators (MAISA)** - MiNOC is collaborating with MAISA on the reporting and data collection process of the grant.
- **MiCloud** - MiNOC collaborates with the MiCloud project to facilitate backups of district data, migrate servers to the cloud, and provide staff training.
- **VoIP** - MiNOC, as part of VoIP's partner program, gets access to lower pricing, more resources, and early access to products and promotions.
- **Board Members** - MiNOC utilizes a board to provide project guidance and decision making authority for the project scope.

- Mike Simon - Clare Gladwin RESD
- Shawn Petri - COOR ISD
- Jason Jeffrey - West Shore ESD
- Kerri Harrie - West Shore ESD
- Dave Cox - Wexford-Missaukee ISD
- Katrina Bontekoe - Wexford-Missaukee ISD



Cost Savings, Return on Investment, and Value Proposition

PRIOR YEAR FUNDING

12c-Consolidation of Services grant funds were awarded to Wexford-Missaukee in November, 2024, while funding was not released until January of 2025. Therefore, \$0 were spent on the consolidation in the prior fiscal year.

With only six months of funding, efforts are underway to realize the cost savings, return on investment, and value proposition outlined in the [11x-Feasibility Study](#), see page 17. The figures below represent some of the key data points related to the core consolidation of services: migration of phone systems and shared staffing. **These amounts are projections, as the total cost of savings will not be realized until full implementation is achieved.**

\$750,000

A Cost Savings

The migration to a centralized, open-source phone systems projected to yield an estimated savings of \$750,000 for the new system, in addition to several thousand dollars annually in support charges.

15.4%

Return on Investment

The ROI is 15.4% when using standard K12ETA pricing, the sharing of staff, and the attrition of head count over time.

Value Proposition

Staff retention and professional development yield significant long-term benefits. By prioritizing talent cultivation, we can realize substantial cost savings and foster a highly skilled, adaptable workforce. Effective retention strategies mitigate these expenditures.

PROGRAM INCOME

In support of sustainability, Wexford-Missaukee accumulated interest of \$46,718 on the total award of \$1,933,000 that will be added to the grant award. Per state guidance, these dollars will be used for the purpose and under the conditions of the grant award.



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