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MANS Commends Governor Whitmer in Submitting Application for Federal Funds Supporting Non-public Schools

LANSING – The Michigan Association of Non-Public Schools (MANS) applauds Governor Whitmer for applying for funding for the Emergency Assistance to Non-Public Schools (EANS) Program. Access to this federal program will play a critical role in assisting students and schools in recovering from the COVID 19 pandemic.

The majority of MANS member schools have been in-person since the beginning of the 2020-21 school year and have incurred steep costs to ensure student and teacher safety. Access to the EANS program will allow non-public schools to address areas impacting all students with a priority given to low-income students. Such areas include a lack of capacity to provide remote learning due to insufficient technological support, learning loss attributable to the educational disruptions caused by COVID-19, among many others.

"The COVID-19 pandemic has created tremendous financial and educational challenges for all schools in the state of Michigan, including non-public schools", said Tom DeJonge, Superintendent of Grand Rapids Christian Schools and MANS Board President. "I commend the governor for recognizing the impact of the pandemic on non-public schools by applying for the EANS program. Our member schools have stepped up to the challenge of safely educating students during a pandemic. As a result, schools have prioritized funds for disinfectant items, improvements to ventilation systems, PPE, and technology."

The Emergency Assistance to Non-public Schools (EANS) Program is a part of the Coronavirus Response and Relief Supplemental Appropriations Act (CRRSA) and requires the governor of each state to apply for the funds. Michigan's allocation is \$86,776,841.00. An application process will be implemented with an emphasis on assisting low-income students.

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