**More on Massachusetts Education Success**

Michigan has a group by the name of Business Leaders for Michigan. They are a private, non-profit executive leadership organization working to help Michigan achieve a “Top Ten” state. The publish reports and advocate for policy in support of their positions.

In 2014, they published this report:

<http://static1.1.sqspcdn.com/static/f/939177/25863162/1421437294333/BenchmarkReport2014.pdf?token=MIPZ%2B2w8ABZrA8hL5DP%2FR8ANr%2F0%3D>

**Their findings are an unsolicited, evidence based endorsement of Massachusetts education practices.**

On page 34, Fourth Grade Reading is reported:

 Tenhttp:// *Michigan 4th graders are performing below the “TopTen” average in reading by about one percentage point. Both the Michigan average and the “Top Ten” average exceeded the “basic” level, but fall short of the “proficient” level.* ***Michigan scores have declined since 2007 and were among the bottom half of the nation.*** *Michigan 4th grade reading scores were outranked by all of its peer states except California.*

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The highest performing peer state is Massachusetts.

On page 35, 8th Grade Math, Michigan scores remain in the bottom half of the nation. The highest performing state? Massachusetts.

On page 36-37, Career & College Ready, Michigan ranks in the bottom half of the country. Again, Massachusetts is the highest performing state.5D

On the other hand, Massachusetts ranks low in pre-school enrollments and average on pre-school funding. This reinforces other research findings that pre-school is NOT required for strong student achievement and targeted state funding for the children with the most significant needs is much more effective to improving actual outcomes for children. P%2FR8ANr%2F0%3D” state for jobs, personal income and a healthy economy