## Message from the President

Looking back over the past year, it is hard not to feel a sense of pride for all that we accomplished. Working alongside top-notch Michigan educators and statewide groups, the REMC Association of Michigan added additional courses, webinars, workshops and educator resources to support successful implementation of educational technology in the classroom. Through REMC SAVE, we helped school districts save time and over $128 million last year.

We remain committed to providing proactive leadership in building a vision that supports quality teaching and learning, the effective use of educational technology and provides equity to pre-K-12 students. This Annual Report is a culmination of our work and the accomplishments towards this mission. Data and information is also included specific to each local REMC to further highlight the work that is taking place throughout the state of Michigan.

It is an honor to serve as the REMC Association President. I look forward to continuing to create effective classroom resources and meaningful professional learning opportunities for all educators as well as supporting the purchasing power through REMC SAVE.

Tom Louks, REMC Association President

## Association Points of Pride

As an organization, we strive to improve learning, empower educators and provide savings. This past year we expanded our outreach through exhibiting and presenting at numerous state-wide conferences and sharing newsletter articles and resources with partnering organizations. Specifically:

- REMC Directors, RITS and Leadership team members presented over 25 sessions at various conferences.
- The Association partnered with MACUL and MASL to host a statewide Podcast Challenge.
- REMC members attended an AI Summit along with 23 school districts and professional associations from around the U.S. to engage in extended conversations about generative AI.
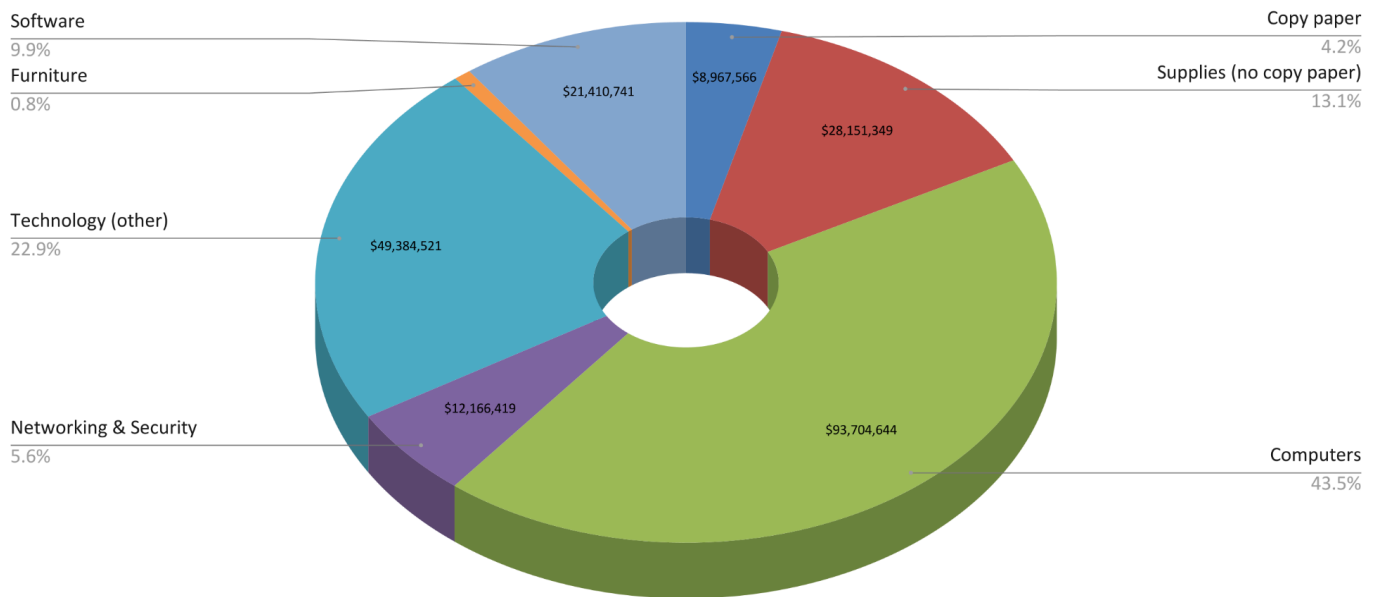
### *Empower Educators: Professional Learning*

- Our Professional Learning offerings have a state-wide impact. Click on this Map to view Michigan districts with educators completing courses.
- REMC Association offered 122 courses and reached about 1500 educators from all areas of Michigan. We had a high completion rate - 82% of those that started a course completed it.

- REMC Association offered 78 workshops & webinars reaching 1128 educators; topics included a series on AI in Education, Esports, and Podcasting in Education.
- Local REMCs offered professional learning opportunities and specialized training for local area educators.
  - Local Professional Learning Funding offered through the REMC Association to date is $972,000, with $151,649 given during 2023-2024.
  - REMC Professional Learning funding provided at least 62 professional events at the local level to 26 of 28 local REMC centers.

### Provide Savings: REMC SAVE

- In 2023-24, REMC SAVE eligible agencies purchased over 6.2 million items, saving nearly $129 million dollars on over $196 million in purchases. The purchases were portioned across the REMC SAVE contract categories as follows:

2023-24 REMC SAVE Sales



| Category | Percent | Value |
|---|---|---|
| Software | 9.9% | $21,410,741 |
| Furniture | 0.8% | |
| Copy paper | 4.2% | $8,967,566 |
| Supplies (no copy paper) | 13.1% | $28,151,349 |
| Technology (other) | 22.9% | $49,384,521 |
| Networking & Security | 5.6% | $12,166,419 |
| Computers | 43.5% | $93,704,644 |

### Empower Educators: Educator Resources

- *21Things4Students and MiTechKids: Provides lessons, activities and resources to help students grow their effective use of technology.*
  - Updated the content and reformatted 13 of the 21 Things including the addition of AI to various Quests throughout
    - Focused on social networking, cyber-safety, basic skills, search strategies and digital citizenship
    - Added and updated instructional videos with AI-generated and animated content

- - ■ Revised and improved the Teacher Resources and updated the teacher guides
    - ○ All of the MiTechKid's task cards have been revised and keywords were updated on the REMC OER website.

- Cybersecurity: Resources to support schools and districts in addressing cybersecurity.
    - ○ Created resources specific to administrators and school leaders, including a Start Guide and vetted list of outside resources shared publicly by trusted entities.
    - ○ Includes slides that can be shared or printed to build common language and understanding of cybersecurity terms, areas of concerns and tips for keeping information secure.
    - ○ Offered a virtual course exploring cybersecurity and best practices as well as a series of short webinars exploring scenarios to learn about and understand cybersecurity attacks and prevention.
- *Doodle for Your Noodle:* This project was designed to immerse educators in getting started and implementing sketchnoting as a teaching and learning strategy to improve comprehension and information retention.
    - ○ Held 6 cohort groups, reaching approximately 250 educators across the state
    - ○ Data gathered at Mastery Check at the end of the cohorts showed participants' familiarity with sketchnotes grew significantly throughout the course, increasing from an average of 2.5 to 4.2 on a 5-point scale.
    - ○ When participants were asked what they liked about the course, the top three things were the variety of activities, self-paced learning and choice and flexibility.
- MiMystery Connect: Is a live video conference between two classrooms in Michigan. The two classrooms take turns asking YES or NO questions to determine the location of the other school.
    - ○ Distributed maps, cameras, microphones and connection facilitation equipment to each REMC in the state.
    - ○ Established membership database so teachers can find classrooms for connections.
    - ○ Developed an asynchronous Canva course to help educators become familiar with the project and learn how to coordinate and facilitate a connection.
    - ○ Hosted a webinar for MI Mystery Connect members to meet one another and discuss project logistics. Promoted the project with a session at the MACUL Conference.
- Student Centered Learning Across Michigan (SLAM): Designed to create a local support structure to help educators build their own elements of a blended, self-paced classroom.
    - ○ The project had 38 participants in the Modern Classrooms Project companion course.
    - ○ Awarded 11 scholarships for educators in Michigan to participate in the Virtual Mentorship Program where they designed materials for their own blended, self-paced, mastery-based classrooms.

- *MI Streamnet*: A FREE service provided by the REMC Association of Michigan that allows educators to host and share accessible video content without the content and privacy concerns of commercial sites like YouTube.
    - MI Streamnet currently hosts 4930 active videos from 162 registered users.
    - Videos on MI Streamnet have more than 900,000 total views.
    - Since September 1, 2023, there have been 133,000 video views.
    - 1519 videos have added captioning in non-English languages.
    - Over 150 videos have been posted with built-in quizzes for e-learning and professional development.
    - New features allow classroom teachers or administrators to more easily assemble daily announcement programs.
- Promoting STEM Through Literature (PSTL): These materials help educators use literature to get students excited about science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) by actively involving them in the design thinking process.
    - Held two virtual training sessions with 23 participants.
    - Held an in-person workshop with 18 participants.
    - Added three new books: The Brilliant Calculator, Architect of Imagination and Guitar Genius.