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## **LPHS among 71 schools statewide selected to host in-school advisor to help students pursue college**

**LANSING, MICH.** –**Lincoln Park High School** will host an in-school college adviser this fall as part of the **Michigan College Access Network’s** (MCAN) AdviseMI program. Now in its fourth year, AdviseMI aims to increase the number of students who pursue education beyond high school.

“AdviseMI has served as an important resource helping students navigate the college-going process,” said **Brandy Johnson**, MCAN executive director. “As recent college graduates themselves, our advisers offer important insight to students and are specially trained to help students understand a vital message not every student is told -- they are college material.”

AdviseMI focuses on placing recent college graduates to serve as college advisers in high schools with low college-going rates. They work alongside school counselors and other staff to facilitate a smooth transition from high school to postsecondary education.

New advisers completed an intensive four-week training this summer to prepare them for the 2018-2019 school year. Some advisers will split their time between two high schools to allow 56 college advisers to serve a total of 71 high schools across the state. Advisers will focus on helping students research various college options, retake admission tests, apply to colleges, complete the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA) to secure financial aid, and enroll in postsecondary institutions.

“Our adviser has been specially trained to help students navigate the college application process, financial aid and other challenges they may face in their path to higher education,” said **Daniel Mercer**, principal of Lincoln Park High School. “Our goal is to encourage LPHS students to explore all of their post-secondary options and make them aware of the resources available to help them succeed.”

**AdviseMI** recently received the Outstanding National Service Award at the 2018 Governor’s Service Awards ceremony. This award honors programs that make an impact in communities and successfully support their service members.

The advisers are recent graduates from 18 partner colleges, including Adrian College, Alma College, Calvin College, Central Michigan University, Eastern Michigan University, Ferris State University, Grand Valley State University, *Kalamazoo* College, Madonna University, Northern Michigan University, Oakland

Our Goal: 60% college attainment by 2025

University, Olivet College, Saginaw Valley State University, Siena Heights University, University of Michigan-Dearborn, University of Michigan-Flint, Wayne State University and Western Michigan University.

To see the full list of the 71 participating high schools, go [here](#).

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### **About Michigan College Access Network**

As the leader in the state's college access movement, MCAN's mission is to increase Michigan's college readiness, participation and completion rates, particularly among low-income students, first-generation college going students, and students of color. For the seventh year in a row, Michigan's postsecondary educational attainment rate has increased — from 35.7 percent of 25-to-64-year-olds possessing at least an associate degree in 2008, to 39.4 percent in 2015. Additionally, it is estimated another 4 percent of Michiganders have a high-quality certificate, bringing Michigan's official attainment rate to 43.7 percent as of 2018. It is MCAN's goal to increase Michigan's postsecondary educational attainment rate to 60 percent by the year 2025. For more information, visit [micollegeaccess.org](http://micollegeaccess.org).