



NEWS RELEASE

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Longtime Volunteers and Pioneers Recognized by Waterford Board of Education for Contributions

October 20, 2017, Waterford, Mich. – The Waterford School District Board of Education recognized Don and Margie Arsen at its regular meeting on Thursday, October 19. The Arsens were recognized for their many years of volunteerism, involvement with community organizations and boards, and for their personal contributions. Both have made a significant impact on teaching and learning in the Waterford School District, and beyond, and have touched the lives of countless students.

The Arsens graduated from Central Michigan University (CMU) and moved to Waterford in 1949, where they raised their children and worked for the Waterford School District. Margie was not only a teacher but also a pioneer of the Waterford School District's preschool program. She established an endowment to support programming at the Stepanski Early Childhood Center. After serving in the military and graduating from CMU, Don worked as a teacher, counselor, elementary principal, and director of adult education. He developed the adult education program into one of the State's premier programs.

Don has served as a board trustee for the Waterford Foundation for Public Education for over 30 years. He was a member of the Waterford Foundation design team prior to its establishment in 1984. During his time on the board, he witnessed \$2 million in grants awarded to Waterford School District staff for innovative and creative classroom/school projects and numerous scholarships to students. He worked on many staff and student recognition programs including the Select 50, Teacher of the Year, Durant High School Most Improved, and more.

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Don and Margie have been part of many Waterford Foundation major fundraisers including the Annual Golf Outing and the employee payroll deduction campaign. They also made significant personal contributions to benefit teaching and learning in the District, including monetary contributions, the Don and Margie Arsen Early Childhood Grant Fund, and National Geographic Kids subscriptions to all Waterford second grade classrooms to name a few.

The Waterford Foundation honors an outstanding individual(s) each year who has achieved success and is active in service to their community. The Foundation has named the Arsen's as their honorees at its Annual Golf Outing on Tuesday, June 19, 2018.

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