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# WATERFORD SCHOOL DISTRICT

# Board Briefs

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**SUMMARY OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION REGULAR MEETING**

**February 21, 2008**

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## STUDENT PRESENTATIONS

**Inspirations** - Jeff Katakowski, teacher at Mason Middle School, Christopher Kargula, Cooper Standard Automotive Engineer, and three Mason Middle School 8<sup>th</sup> grade students presented a demonstration on the Inspirations Workshop.

## RECOGNITION BY SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD PRESIDENT

**Metro North Federal Credit Union** - On behalf of the Board of Education, Superintendent Neu honored Mindy McLandress and Nancy Chevrier, representatives from Metro North Federal Credit Union.

Metro North has once again offered the Educational Grant Program to Waterford School District teachers. This program aims to assist educators with the cost of classroom supplies, whether for a specialty item, supplemental materials, or other supplies to aid in the classroom.

We are happy to take this opportunity to recognize the Metro North Federal Credit Union for their valued partnership with the Waterford School District and for the direct impact they make in Waterford classrooms.

## RECOGNITION OF ACHIEVEMENT FROM CENTRAL STAFF

**Pierce F.O.R. Club** - Congratulations to the Pierce Middle School Friends of Rachel Club for being named the 2008 Youth Group of the Year by the Waterford Coalition for Youth. The F.O.R. Club was recognized for their self-directed leadership and their commitment to promoting a safe, kind, and welcoming environment for all students.

**Citizen of the Year** - We are also pleased to congratulate Waterford Kettering Principal, Josh Wenning, who was recently named the 2008 Citizen of the Year by the Waterford Coalition for Youth. Mr. Wenning was nominated by a parent for his commitment to Waterford families. He was recognized for his collaborative efforts and support of students and staff on numerous initiatives. Congratulations Josh for this honor.

**Pierce Spelling Bee** - Friday, January 24, the final 30 Pierce Middle School spellers came together for the All School Spelling Bee. After 133 words, seventh-grade student, Zach Ewing won the spelling bee. Zach will represent Pierce Middle School at the 2008 Regional Spelling Bee, which is organized by The Oakland Press. Congratulations to Zach as he advances.

**Arc Awards** - The Arc of Oakland County has announced that four Student Support Services Department members will receive their very distinguished Dove Award this year.

The Arc of Oakland County is a non-profit United Way Agency that recognizes individuals who have made significant contributions and improvements to the quality of life of persons with cognitive impairments. The following staff received awards:

1. Geralyn Janeczko, Secondary Special Education Supervisor: *The President's Award*. This award is given to an individual who has made significant contributions that have enhanced the quality of life for individuals who have a developmental disability.

2. Vicki Widman, Early Childhood Special Education Coordinator: *The Inclusion Leadership Award*. This award is given to an individual who through their diligence and dedication has strived to make inclusive education a reality for students with special needs.
3. Teri Dittman, Teacher of the Cognitively Impaired at Riverside Elementary: *The Leonard Cercone Teacher of the Year Award*. This award is given to a classroom teacher who has been creative and enthusiastic in teaching students who have developmental disabilities.
4. Debi Blood will receive *The Support Professional Award* (posthumous) for her incredible support and dedication to students with special needs. This award is given to an individual who displays exceptional and genuine compassion for persons with developmental disabilities.

These awards will be presented at the 39th Annual Dove Awards recognition ceremony on Friday, April 4, 2008, at the San Marino Club in Troy. Congratulations to these individuals for this very prestigious award!

**Kettering Fundraiser** - On Friday, February 8<sup>th</sup>, students and parents from the Waterford Kettering International Thespian Troupe and the Kettering music department hosted a spaghetti dinner to raise funds for Kettering senior, Marie Shedlowsky, who is battling an eating disorder in a clinic in Virginia. The night included spaghetti, salad and garlic bread, and a variety of desserts. All food was provided by the Church of the Nazarene, and patrons were also treated to a delightful production of the comedy, "The Dining Room."

This event raised over \$5,000 to help the Shedlowskys defer the cost of Marie's medical treatment, and is a testament to the caring, sharing students and families of Waterford. February 8 happened to be Marie's 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. Thank you to all of the students and audience members for their assistance.

## INFORMATION ITEMS

**Physical Education** Dr. Ray Allen presented the Board of Education with an update of the current status and initiatives of the Physical Education Department and presented information regarding the award received by the District this year at the State conference.

**School Resource Officer** - Thomas Wiseman, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, provided the Board of Education with information regarding the School Resource Officer program.

**Energy Conservation Project Update** - Thomas Wiseman, Assistant Superintendent of Business Services, and Randy Portwood, Executive Manager of Facilities, presented an update to the Board of Education as it relates to District energy conservation project.

**Administrative Contracts** - The Board of Education received a recommendation for the re-employment of administrative personnel on a non-administrative tenure basis, for a period of two years, July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2010, subject to appropriate written notice of termination prior to June 30, 2010, due to conditions requiring probation, layoff, reassignment and/or personnel reduction and termination.

**Superintendent's Contract** - The Board of Education received a recommendation to approve the proposed Letter of Agreement Between the Waterford School District and Mr. Robert R. Neu, Superintendent of Schools.

**Head Start Reports** -The Board of Education received as information the December 2007 and January 2008 Director Reports and the December 2007 and January 2008 Financial Reports.

NEW BUSINESS

**Administrative Contracts** - The Board of Education approved the recommendation for the re-employment of administrative personnel on a non-administrative tenure basis, for a period of two years, July 1, 2008, through June 30, 2010, subject to appropriate written notice of termination prior to June 30, 2010, due to conditions requiring probation, layoff, reassignment and/or personnel reduction and termination.

**Resignation(s)**- The Board of Education approved the following resignation:

Peni Aldrich, Assistant Superintendent  
Human Resources, Personnel & Labor Relations  
Resignation Effective March 31, 2008

PRESIDENT’S RECOMMENDATION

**Superintendent’s Contract** - The Board of Education approved the proposed Letter of Agreement Between the Waterford School District and Robert R. Neu, Superintendent of Schools.

FUTURE

March 6, 2008

Student - Adams Student Play: Drip and Drop Go to Aqua School  
Information - Betty Campion  
Information - Valued Volunteer  
Information - Elementary Data

For information on these subjects, watch the replay of the Board meeting on Channel 22 Friday following the meeting at 10:00 AM, Sunday at 12:00 PM, and again the following Monday at 8:00 PM. The Interim and Regular meetings are held on the first and third Thursday of each month, beginning at 7:00 PM. The public is invited to attend.