

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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No Bones About It

Waterford School District partners with local orgs to bring canines to the classroom

Waterford School District has added two new "staff" members to its classrooms.

On April 24, Mott High School officially welcomed Charlie, a 1-year-old yellow Labrador retriever, as the school's Social Emotional Learning Support dog for students and staff. On May 8, Charlie's littermate, Wilson, reported for duty at Kettering High School.

Both pups come from Green Acres Labradors, who raised and trained the dogs for service. LaFontaine Automotive Group partnered with Waterford School District to sponsor the cost associated with purchasing and training the pups. Pet Supplies Plus Store #13 and Union Lake Vet Hospital are providing additional sponsorship for Charlie's ongoing needs; Kettering is still looking for sponsorship for Wilson and an <u>Amazon</u> <u>Wish List</u> has also been set up.

Charlie is partnered with Kim McGee, Mott social studies teacher. Two other teachers, Mary Shelton and Kevin Krawczyk, plan to also help take Charlie to other classrooms during the day. Kettering Principal Ben Harwood will oversee Wilson's care.

"Ensuring our students and staff have social-emotional supports inside the classroom is crucial for both academic success and emotional wellbeing," said Assistant Superintendent of Teaching and Learning Services Lisa Eldredge. "Charlie and Wilson are a welcome addition to the already robust staff and student support system we have here at WSD."

To stay up to date on <u>Charlie</u> and Wilson's activities, follow WSD's social media platforms. Those interested in sponsoring Wilson can contact Kettering High School at 248.673.1261.





Charlie

Wilson

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