



NEWS RELEASE

Waterford School District, 1150 Scott Lake Road, Waterford, MI 48328

Waterford School District's Children's Services Department Changes Name

August 13, 2007 Waterford, Mich. – The Waterford School District's Children's Services Department is pleased to announce that on August 1, 2007 their name was officially changed to: Student Support Services. The Department is proud of the broad continuum of programs and services that have been and will continue to be in place for the students of the Waterford School District School District.

Currently over 1700 students benefit from special support services within this department. These include support services from: school social workers, school psychologists, teachers of speech and language impaired, occupational therapists and physical therapists. Programs and services include classroom instruction, consultation, ancillary support, and adaptive supplies and materials specifically designed to meet the identified educational goals of students. An integral part of the department is also Child Find. The Child Find Coordinator helps identify children who may need access or support to special services prior to school age.

A vast majority of students receive educational support in their neighborhood school with assistance from a resource room teacher, a speech and language provider or a teacher consultant. Special education services are available at all of the district's schools. Emphasis is placed on educating all students in their neighborhood schools to the maximum extent appropriate. However, all decisions about programs and services

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for students must be based on each student's individual needs and must be made by an Individualized Educational Planning Team. Students, who require more support, than is available at their neighborhood school, may attend programs at designated schools within the district.

In addition to providing special education support services, it is the responsibility of the Waterford School District with the support of the Student Support Services department to identify and evaluate students who within the intent of Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 need specialized services or programs. The person designated by the District to implement 504 as it relates to students in k-12 educational programs is the Director of Student Support Services. The Waterford School District continues to be committed to providing quality programs designed to meet students' individual needs and is extremely proud of the services that are delivered through the Student Support Services Department. Questions regarding any support services can be answered by contacting the Student Support Services Department at: (248) 682-3242.

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