



NEWS RELEASE

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

Waterford School District to Open School-based Mental Health Center Funded through Safe School/Healthy Students Initiative

April 21, 2009 Waterford, Mich. – The Waterford School District is pleased to announce the opening of the Counseling Connections Center, a school-based mental health facility that provides services for elementary students, ages 5-11 years old. The Counseling Connections Center is funded through the \$5.7 million dollar Safe Schools/Healthy Students Federal Grant the District received in 2008.

The Counseling Connections Center will focus on the mental and social needs of students by connecting students and their families with appropriate resources for support and assistance. A licensed therapist will conduct screenings and assessments for at-risk students who have been referred by the school social worker or classroom teacher. Both the therapist and case manager will mediate between the schools, service providers, and families in order to help coordinate mental health services and interventions in a most effective and efficient manner. The mental health services may also include individual and group counseling, substance abuse prevention, education, referrals, and basic crisis intervention.

The Counseling Connections Center (CCC), which is located at the 5195 Pontiac Lake Road, Lutes Campus, will host an Open House on Thursday, May 7, 2009, from 3:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m. All are welcome to come and tour the new clinic, mix and mingle, and learn more about our services. Light refreshments will be served.

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