



NEWS RELEASE

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Waterford School District Launches Innovative Waterford Cyber Academy *Non-traditional public school without walls will deliver curriculum and instruction virtually*

July 21, 2010 Waterford, Mich. – The Waterford School District is pleased to announce the launch of the new and innovative Waterford Cyber Academy, a non-traditional public school without walls that delivers curriculum and instruction virtually to students. Starting this fall, 9-12 grade high school students in Oakland County, and its contiguous counties, can earn their diplomas almost entirely on-line, tuition-free.

The Waterford School District has signed an agreement with Job Skill Technology, Inc of Auburn Hills. Job Skill Technology is a provider of computer-based learning. It specializes in software, assessment, e-learning, and hardware with an emphasis on technical support and training. K-12™ is the content provider and is accredited through AdvancED. More than 130 core, elective, and advanced placement courses are available to the student. The virtual learning courses will be taken at a student's self-scheduled time and place with no regular daily attendance required.

Job Skill Technology will provide highly qualified teachers for students to contact when needed and the Waterford School District will provide certified mentors as needed. Books and other materials the student needs to complete the coursework will be mailed to their homes. Each course has a regular weekly schedule of assignments

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and activities, which include on-line and off-line assignments. Each class takes approximately one full semester to complete, however, a student may finish earlier or later based on their skill and knowledge.

The Waterford Cyber Academy will appeal not only to alternative learners, but also to home-schooled students, working students, and elite athletes who want a traditional high school diploma. Waterford will accept schools of choice students from all over the area to the Waterford Cyber Academy only. The students must meet Waterford School District graduation requirements before receiving a diploma and must take the Michigan Merit Exam.

An informational meeting will be held on Monday, July 26, 6-8 p.m., at the Kurzman Administration Office, Covert Center, 1150 Scott Lake Road. To learn more, visit the Waterford Cyber Academy at www.waterford.k12.mi.us/cyberacademy.

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