



NEWS RELEASE

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Waterford School District Bargaining Units Ratify Contracts

***2011-2012 Budget is Balanced Offering Full Programming to
Students and Community***

June 17, 2011 Waterford, Mich. –Waterford School District Bargaining Units including Waterford Education Association (teachers), Michigan Educational Support Professional Association (MESPA I Secretaries, MESPA II Instructional Aides and Library Technicians, and MESPA III Cafeteria, Custodians, Maintenance, and Transportation) have ratified contracts effective July 1, 2011, which include wage and salary concessions and contributions to the cost of their health care coverage. The agreement has not only been reached with the represented District employees, but also nonaffiliated employees, administrators, and third-party employees.

The agreements contributed significantly to the Board of Education adopting a balanced budget for the 2011-12 school year on June 16, allowing Waterford Schools to retain full programming for students in spite of the largest reduction in state funding since the passage of Proposal A in 1994. Other key factors that helped to eliminate a projected \$12 million deficit were significant contributions from the District's existing fund balance and budget reductions that trimmed expenditures by several million dollars.

“We are extremely grateful to our employees for their willingness to make personal sacrifices for the greater good of our students and our organization,” said John Silveri, Waterford School District Superintendent. “We’re also thankful for the hundreds of constructive suggestions for reductions and enhancements to the District budget that were submitted by employees and community members at our invitation. Without these vital contributions we would not have been able to fundamentally hold students harmless.”

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““These last few years have been a financial strain for all of my members, but yet again we’ve been able to work with the District and do what’s best for kids and the community. I only hope that the legislature realizes this and begins to properly fund education.”

said Marcy Felegy, MEA Waterford Executive Director.

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