

News

INSPIRE, EDUCATE, AND EMPOWER OUR STUDENTS FOR THEIR FUTURE!

Waterford School District, 501 N. Cass Lake Road, Waterford, 248.682.7800

www.waterford.k12.mi.us

Fall 2011

Waterford School District Receives Blue Cross Blue Shield Building Healthy Communities Grant

The Waterford School District and Houghton Elementary School were awarded the Blue Cross Blue Shield of Michigan, Building Healthy Communities Engaging Elementary Schools and their Community Partners Program, which supports school programs focused on reducing childhood obesity. The grant consists of four elements: health assessments, physical activity and nutrition education, walking club, and a 5K run or walk. Houghton Elementary School will implement the following projects during the 2011-2012 school year:

- HOPSports lessons which will enhance PE instruction and increase physical activity
- OrganWise Guys science-based school nutrition and physical activity program
- BodyWorks obesity prevention program designed to help parents improve family eating and activity habits
- Run and/or Walk Day
- Family walking and swim nights at the Waterford School District Pool & Fitness Center

The grant encourages community partnerships and collaborative approaches to obesity prevention. The Waterford School District and Waterford Township Parks and Recreation Department collaboratively proposed a Celebratory Run/Walk/Bike Event at Hess Hathaway Park which will involve Houghton Elementary School.



In addition, funding from this grant will allow additional improvements at Hess Hathaway Park including upgrading several existing trails, installation of a short shared-use loop that can be accessed by wheelchair from the parking lot and traversed by wheelchairs, tricycles, or any other non-motorized transportation; providing free loaner bikes at the Park in sizes appropriate for children, including an adaptive hand-pedal bike and a trike; loaner helmets; a bike rack; and a basketball half-court with loaner basketballs and an adaptive hoop with adjustable rim height that will be wheelchair-accessible from the parking lot. The Celebratory Walk/Run/Bike will be held at the park and will serve as

a "grand opening" to introduce the entire community to these new facilities.

Houghton Elementary will celebrate the grant award on October 7, 11:30a.m.-3:45p.m., through a student run/walk.

It's a
POOL PARTY

Celebrate your birthday or team party at the Waterford Pool & Fitness Centers!

Package includes 2 hours of private room use and swimming for 20 children

Call 248.673.9969
or email PFC@wsdmi.org

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Senior Citizens: Request a Gold Card Today!

The Waterford School District would like to offer our senior citizens a Gold Card that admits a Waterford senior resident, 62 years of age or older, and a guest, to all home games (excluding District playoffs) and selected concerts and plays at no cost. If you are interested in receiving a Gold Card, please call School & Community Services at 248.706.4868 to request a card.

Safety Hotline Available

The Waterford School District Safety Hotline is designed to serve as an early warning system for potential safety issues and as a deterrent. If students and parents know of an unsafe situation in school they can anonymously pass on that information through the Safety Hotline, initiating immediate and appropriate action. Depending on the urgency of the call, the District will contact law enforcement when appropriate.

248.674.6122



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WSDNEWS

Superintendent's Message. . . .

Welcome to the 2011-12 school year! The beginning of a new school year is an exciting time for our students, as it is for us all. There is good reason to be excited. We are all fortunate to be a part of a very caring and capable school community, the Waterford School District community. Teachers, administrators, and other staff members are knowledgeable, skilled, talented, and dedicated to providing a high quality education to our students. Our Board of Education is comprised of individuals who look beyond personal interests and keep the focus on what is in the best interests of each and every one of our students. Community groups, including our city government, police and fire departments, Chamber of Commerce, service organizations, etc., work cooperatively with the District to best serve the needs of our youngest citizens.



Each of us within the Waterford School District community has a common interest that overrides all others, as captured in our vision statement: to inspire, educate, and empower our students for their future. Whenever our differences threaten to divide us and divert our time and attention from what is most important, we need to bring one another back to why we are here and renew our focus on our vision. To help keep us as focused as possible, we have established three long-term goals that will target our efforts where they're most needed and on what is most essential in order for our actions to be consistent with our vision:

The fundamental purpose of the Waterford School District is to ensure high levels of learning for all students, as evidenced by the following goals.

- We will ensure that all students successfully complete every course and every grade level and demonstrate proficiency on local, state, and national assessments.
- We will eliminate gaps in student achievement in all demographic areas.
- We will provide challenging learning experiences for every student every day.

These are lofty goals, to be sure. Each is clearly linked to the purpose of learning for all students, as they must be. Every goal establishes challenging targets, presents adaptive challenges and requires innovation and the development of new capacities, and they will not be easily or quickly attained. Knowing this, we are committing to these goals on a long-term basis, as they represent a life's work and not a short-term project. These are not just goals for the new school year; we will remain committed to these goals year after year until they are achieved.

For all of our strengths, we know that we can and must improve, and thus we have set our sights high. To quote B.C. Forbes, "Diamonds are only lumps of coal that stuck to their jobs." We will stick to our jobs, to inspire, educate, and empower our students for their future, with a renewed focus on our District vision and a relentless pursuit of our District goals. I fully expect that we are at the beginning of very successful and highly productive school year, one of achievement, growth, and improvement. I look forward to all of us working collaboratively together to help make it so.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "John Silveri".

John Silveri
Superintendent of Schools

No person on the basis of race, color, religion, national origin or ancestry, age, sex, disability, height and weight, or marital status shall be discriminated against, excluded from participation in, denied the benefits of, or otherwise be subjected to discrimination in any program, activity, or event.

Watch the Board Meetings on Your Computer!

Are you interested in watching the Waterford Board of Education meetings but don't have the multi-media service provider to do so? No problem! Channel 22, the District's educational channel, is available and offers all District programming through streaming video. Viewers may watch programming offered on this channel via their computer. The website address for the channel is www.waterford.k12.mi.us.

Board of Education Meeting Schedule

Waterford Board of Education Meetings are held at 6:00 p.m., at Waterford Township Hall unless otherwise posted.

Interim Meetings (First Thursday of the month)

November 3, 2011
December 1, 2011
January 5, 2012
February 7, 2012
March 1, 2012

Regular Meetings (Third Thursday of the month)

October 20, 2011
November 17, 2011
December 15, 2011
January 19, 2012
February 16, 2012
March 15, 2012
April 19, 2012
May 17, 2012
June 21, 2012

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Waterford School District Awarded \$280,814 Mentoring Grant from U.S. Department of Justice

The United States Department of Justice has awarded the Waterford School District the "Mentoring for Youth with Disabilities Initiative" grant to implement a site-based mentoring program for students attending Kingsley Montgomery School (KMS). The award, totaling \$280,814, will be distributed over the course of three years, and will expand upon the existing mentoring program.

The grant aims to provide one-to-one mentoring relationships to students with severe emotional impairments in grades K-12 who participate in the Day Treatment Program at KMS. The mentoring matches will meet in the school for one hour, one day per week, during school hours for a minimum of one year. The goals of the program are to:

- Reduce the risk and incidence of delinquency for students with severe emotional impairments
- Create a model mentoring program for students with severe emotional impairments that can be replicated in other districts
- Reduce involvement in the court systems
- Increase the number of trained mentors who are available as a resource to Waterford students
- Increase pro-social skills

The Waterford School District worked closely with its community partners to ensure that the plan for the site-based mentoring program will be a successful and supportive community effort. The partnerships developed through the Safe Schools/Healthy Students and community-based mentoring program initiatives will continue to collaborate for this project. Program partners include: Oakland County Circuit Court-Family Division, Waterford Coalition for Youth, Michigan State University Extension 4-H Youth Development Programs, Waterford Township Police Department, Oakland County Department of Health and Human Services, Waterford Area Chamber of Commerce, and Oakland County Community Mental Health Authority.

The District and its partners will proceed with planning for mentor recruitment and training, and plan to implement the program with students during the current school year.

Urgent School Closing Information

In the event that the District must close school(s) for inclement weather or other emergency situations, information regarding the closing will be available via:

Channel 22	WSDTV
Channel 2	WJBK
Channel 4	WDIV
Channel 7	WXYZ
760 AM	WJR
950 AM	WWJ
95.5 FM	WKQI

Urgent information will also be available at www.waterford.k12.mi.us and via emails sent directly to your inbox for registered Edline users. Parents, if you are not registered for Edline please sign up at www.waterford.k12.mi.us/edline/intro.

Ford Awards \$5,000 to Kettering High School "REDEFINING THE CLASSIC" Video



Ford Motor Company announced that Kettering High School was one of 10 winners of the Focus on Schools contest which challenged high school students to create informative yet entertaining videos featuring the redesigned 2012 Ford Focus and its leading technologies. "This program was an excellent opportunity to support local schools and allow kids to be creative in media arts while learning about our technologies and

the new Focus," said Jim Farley, Ford vice president for Marketing, Sales and Service.

Waterford Kettering received 2,426 votes and was awarded \$5,000 for their "Redefining the Classic" supported by Suburban Ford of Waterford. The check presentation was presented in October.

Become a Mentor

A small amount of your time can make an impact!

The Waterford School District is recruiting volunteers ages 21 and older to mentor teens. Volunteers meet with students in the community for at least 2 hours/week and make a year long commitment to the student.



Youth who are mentored are:
 46% less likely to begin using illegal drugs
 27% less likely to begin using alcohol
 52% less likely to skip school
 37% less likely to skip a class

Contact Teresa Bruno

248.421.6497

Brunot01@wsdmi.org

www.waterford.k12.mi.us/safeschools/mentor



Fostering Optimal Collaboration to Uphold Student Success
 With the support of the community, our children will continue to prosper.
 A Safe Schools/Healthy Students Community

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Family Education Rights and Privacy Act

Directory Information

Federal regulations allow school districts to publish certain information concerning students without securing specific parental authorization, provided parents are notified in advance that this information will be released. Such information is designated "directory information."

In accordance with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act, the Waterford School District has designated the following information as "directory information:" student's name, date and place of birth, participation (including photograph and image on film) in officially recognized school activities and sports, information generally found in yearbooks, major field of study, achievement awards or honors, honor roll members, weight and height of members of athletic teams, dates of attendance, date of graduation, and scholarship information.

Federal law also requires school districts to provide military recruiters, upon request, with students' names, addresses, and telephone numbers, unless directed by a parent, guardian, or eligible student not to disclose such information.

Parents, guardians, or eligible students, who do not wish any or all of the above items released must notify, in writing, within two weeks of this notice, Superintendent John Silveri, Kurzman Administration Services, Crary Campus, 501 N. Cass Lake Road, Waterford, MI, 48328.

If you request your student's name to be excluded, it will not appear on honor rolls, yearbooks, athletic rosters, fine art programs, school newsletters, student newspapers, school district publications, websites, and news releases to the media. The District may disclose directory information on former students without student or parental consent.

Waterford School District... what students deserve

www.waterford.k12.mi.us

Kettering Sophomore Amber Slagle Dreams of Becoming NASCAR Driver



Kettering Sophomore Amber Slagle began her racing career at the age of seven, when she competed in the Quarter Midgets, which is an open wheeled "kid size" race car driven by kids ages 5-16. In 2009, her love for racing soon moved her to racing sport stock.

Slagle runs the tracks in her 1996 Dodge Neon at Owasso Speedway, 85 miles an hour on a 3/8 of a mile oval track. At just 15, she was named the 2011 Sport Stock Champion and has four feature wins, 14 top 5 finishes in 14 starts and set her best qualifying time of 19.50 seconds.

In 2012 Slagle will race a Chevy Monte Carlo in the Pro Stock Series, which runs about 110 miles per hour. She plans on continuing racing and dreams of making it to NASCAR.

Waterford Community Garden Provided Vegetables to Open Door Outreach

The Waterford Community Garden, located on at the Kurzman Administration Services, Crary Campus, provided an assortment of vegetables during the summer and fall months. Nearly 1,000 pounds of vegetables were harvested and donated to Open Door Outreach, an organization that provides hunger relief in the community.

The garden, which was planted this past spring, was made possible solely through grant funding from Burpee Home Garden® in the amount of \$2,500 and 500 vegetables plants, the Waterford

Foundation for Public Education, who awarded \$5,000, and the Lowe's Toolbox for Education Grant for \$5,000.

In addition, in-kind contributions were made by many community businesses and supporters including Murphy & Associates, Landscape Design; Dawn Trainor, Master Gardener; Marc Dutton Irrigation, Inc; BestSource Credit Union; Metro North Credit Union; Creative Designs & Signs; L & S Landscaping; and Glen-Gary Brick Centers.