

WATERLOO SCHOOL BOARD RESOLUTION ON SCHOOL START DATE

WHEREAS, pursuant to **Wis.Stat.Sec. 118.05 Commencement of school term**, the State of Wisconsin provides that public school districts cannot start prior to September 1; and

WHEREAS, the school board may commence a school term prior to September 1 if it submits a written request to the Department of Public Instruction asking for an earlier start date listing the extraordinary reasons for the earlier start date request;

WHEREAS, local control over the start date would allow for additional days of instruction for students prior to state and local assessments, and preparation for the ACT and Advanced Placement exams;

WHEREAS, local control over the start date will allow the Waterloo School District to better meet the needs of its students to have breaks throughout the school year to align with best practices for student learning, to decrease the rate of illness/absences and to increase time spent with family over the holidays;

WHEREAS, local control over the start date will allow the Waterloo School District staff to participate in professional development coursework throughout the course of the school year which is better aligned with best practices for adult learning;

WHEREAS, local control over the start date will allow the Waterloo School District to better align its school calendar with the co-curricular schedule for students that begins in early August;

WHEREAS, the impact on tourism has changed given the fact that states which traditionally comprise significant tourist influx to Wisconsin have public school start dates early to mid-August; and

WHEREAS, charter and voucher school districts have the flexibility to start prior to September 1 and still receive public funding from the State of Wisconsin; and

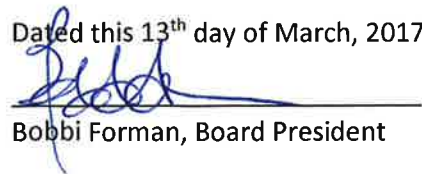
WHEREAS, the State Superintendent is recommending in his 2017-19 Biennial Budget to allow the Milwaukee Public School District to be provided an exception to this provision in the state law to allow the district to maximize learning opportunities; therefore, this opportunity should be granted for all school districts in the state of Wisconsin.

BE IT RESOLVED that the Waterloo School District is officially requesting approval to commence the school term prior to September 1 and establish local control in determining the school calendar.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER, that the Waterloo School District will be better able to educate its students because of this flexibility as great outcomes are anticipated academically as well as preventing absenteeism.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that on March 13, 2017 the Waterloo School District passed this Resolution in order to establish local control for the school calendar by a 6-0 vote.

Dated this 13<sup>th</sup> day of March, 2017

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Bobbi Forman, Board President

\_\_\_\_\_  
Debra Stein, Board Clerk