

RESOLUTION 2017-01

COMMENCEMENT OF SCHOOL TERM

WHEREAS the State of Wisconsin by state statute has indicated that public school districts in the State of Wisconsin cannot start school before September 1 pursuant to Wis. Stat. sec. 118.045 Commencement of school term; and

WHEREAS a school board may commence a school term prior to September 1st 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; and

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; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date will allow the Wautoma Area School District to align its school calendar with post-secondary institutions to better meet the needs of our students; and

WHEREAS local control over the start date will allow the Wautoma Area School District staff to participate in professional development college coursework for license renewal as K-12 schedules become more aligned with post-secondary schedules; and

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

WHEREAS tourism has changed to where most tourists leave Wisconsin because regionally in other states public schools start in early to mid-August; and

WHEREAS charter and voucher school districts have the flexibility to start prior to September 1st 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; and

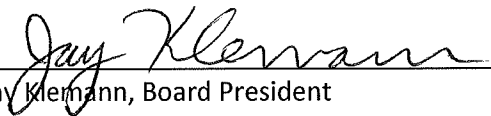
WHEREAS the Wautoma Area School District Board of Education strongly believes that setting the school calendar is a matter of educational policy with sensitivity to local conditions and characteristics of the community, and should remain the decision of locally elected school officials.


BE IT RESOLVED that the Wautoma Area School District is officially requesting approval to commence the school term for the 2017-18 school year on August 28, 2017, and establish local control in determining the school calendar.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that the Wautoma Area School District will be better able to educate its school children because of this flexibility as greater outcomes are anticipated academically as well as preventing absenteeism and for the safety of students.

BE IT RESOLVED FURTHER that on January 9, 2016, the Wautoma Area School District passed this Resolution in order to establish local control for the school calendar by a 6-0 vote.

Dated this 9th day of January, 2017.


Jay Klemann, Board President


Jeannette Thom, Board Clerk


Jeff Kasuboski, District Administrator