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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WISD Board to seek renewal of special education millage

Ann Arbor, MI—Last night, the Washtenaw Intermediate School District (WISD) Board of Education voted to seek renewal of a .9850 mill for seven years to support special education services for students in the 10 school districts in Washtenaw County. The millage—first approved by voters in September 2004—expires this month.

The next step is for the WISD Board to submit its request to the Washtenaw County Board of Election Commissioners for approval. If the election is scheduled, registered voters residing within the WISD service area would vote on the issue on May 3, 2011.

According to WISD Interim Superintendent Richard Leyschok, “The funds will be used to continue to reimburse local school districts for special education programs and to help maintain quality services for all students in Washtenaw County’s public schools.” Today, nearly 7,000—or one in seven—students in Washtenaw County receive some kind of special education service.

“Seven years ago voters approved this millage,” Leyschok explained. “We’re seeking the renewal because the demand for special education continues. And, without adequate special education millage, local districts will be required to take increasing dollar amounts from their general operating funds to provide special education programs that are required by state and federal law.”

For more information, call (734) 994-8100 or go to: www.wash.k12.mi.us.

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