

## Softball volunteers needed for Special Olympics event

Volunteer umpires and scorekeepers are needed for the 12th Annual Special Olympics Softball Invitational at Drake Park in Farmington Saturday, June 29.

The games are scheduled from 9 a.m.-4 p.m. at the park located on Drake Road, one-half mile south of Grand River. "I'm looking for people experienced in slow pitch softball

and people who know the game of baseball," said Ted Stern, sports coordinator for Team Farmington's Special Olympics program.

Traditionally, present and retired officers from the Farmington Public Safety Department officiate, Stern said.

For more information, call Stern at (248) 476-8119.

--by Sue Buck

## Thomas Tattan hired as superintendent

By STEPHANIE ANGELYN CASOLA  
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Waterford Schools may officially extend a warm welcome to soon-to-be Superintendent Dr. Thomas Tattan.

In a swift motion at the start of Thursday's Board of Education meeting, Tattan was hired to succeed Howard Heitzeg, who retired from the position on Feb. 28, and the current acting superintendent, Carol Dowsett.

He comes to Waterford from Clarenceville School District, which includes parts of Livonia, Redford and Farmington Hills.

A short reception was held at the Waterford Administration

Building in Tattan's honor before the meeting. Once the motion to hire him was made by Trustee Brian Whiston, and supported across the board, Tattan received a standing ovation.

"I really want to thank the Board of Education," said Tattan on Friday. "I will earn their respect and appreciation as we work together to make (Waterford) the best district it can be in Oakland County."

Board president, John Himmelspach, said that Tattan was chosen based on his ability, personality and the board's own desire to hire him. Himmelspach said their faith in him was represented in the unanimous vote.

Tattan currently resides in Northville and has no plans to relocate at this time. He said he will miss the employees of the Clarenceville School District when he leaves. "I've got a lot of friends here," he said.

After six years he has established "a quality team" that has made the district a success. Prior to his work as a superintendent for Clarenceville, Tattan worked in the larger Plymouth/Canton School District.

Whiston kept the momentum of the evening going strong by

making a motion to grant Tattan a 4-year contract worth \$184,696.15 with the school district. The motion was supported by Trustee Stanley Kuzman, who, along with Himmelspach, worked to negotiate a contract for the position.

The base salary will be \$160,000, compared to the former Superintendent Howard Heitzeg's base of \$161,000. Heitzeg held the position for 8 years. Whiston noted that the salary is below average compared to surrounding districts, which pay about \$188,000.

Tattan will begin his new position as Waterford Schools Superintendent on July 1.

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### Write on



**Author-in-training:** Monica McCoskey, five, of Farmington Hills, was honored May 29 in ceremonies at Detroit Public Television for her story, *The Friendship Book*. Monica's story received an honorable mention in Channel 56's Reading Rainbow Young Writers and Illustrators Awards Competition.

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