



NEWS RELEASE

**Warren Consolidated Schools
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Wilkerson Elementary teacher receives prestigious Make a Difference Award

Warren, MI – Warren Consolidated Schools is pleased to announce that Wilkerson Elementary School teacher Valerie Puffer is the recipient of a *Make a Difference Award* on behalf of the Macomb Intermediate School District Parent Advisory Committee.

The *Make a Difference Award* is given annually to individuals who make a significant positive impact on the educational experience of a special needs student.

MISD Special Education Management Services Director Dr. Tom Koepke and members of the MISD Parent Advisory Committee leadership team visited Puffer's classroom to award her with the honor and speak to her students about their teacher's great accomplishment.

"Ms. Puffer is a consummate professional who strives to take each student where they are at and provide them with the best opportunities for learning," Deana Tuczec, Director of Special Education said. "She truly loves and cares for each child as if they were her own and wants them to reach their potential."

Puffer has been with the district for the past 14 years, where she currently teaches a 3rd and 4th grade split class. She was nominated for the award by Wilkerson parent Nicole Grabowski whose two daughters are in Puffer's class.

"I am very shocked and honored to receive this award," Puffer said. "Educating our youth is a team effort and I am just part of the team."

Puffer is one of five individuals in the county to receive this prestigious award.

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