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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

**MTEA STATEMENT ON MILWAUKEE PUBLIC SCHOOLS ANNOUNCEMENT
MPS No Longer Qualifies for MPS Takeover Plan**

MILWAUKEE – October 12, 2016 – The Milwaukee Teachers’ Education Association (MTEA) welcomes today’s announcement by the Department of Public Instruction (DPI) and Milwaukee Public Schools (MPS) that the school district is no longer at risk of takeover under the MPS Takeover plan. As a result of improved DPI scores, MPS is no longer eligible for takeover under the Opportunity Schools Partnership Program (OSPP) legislation.

The Milwaukee Teachers’ Education Association (MTEA) President Kim Schroeder released the following statement on this latest development:

“The OSPP legislation was one of the greatest threats to public education Milwaukee has ever seen. The MTEA applauds the work of all educators, parents, and community members who have worked tirelessly to fight this legislation both through grassroots organizing and direct action.

“Thanks to the dedication and commitment of MPS educators, parents, and community members, our students are performing against all odds to overcome the effects of failed education policies.

“We know what works in Milwaukee because we are seeing the results of positive, educator-driven initiatives like the Community School model. We see what happens in public schools where parents, communities, students, and educators are empowered to take ownership of their schools to ensure the success of every child. The OSPP legislation, which threatened to take away local control from the Milwaukee community, is another example of a failed policy created without the expertise of educators who work in our schools.

“Every child in Milwaukee has the right to a publicly funded, equitable, and democratically controlled public school. The MTEA is deeply committed to ensuring every child, regardless of their zip code has access to the schools they deserve.

“MTEA members welcome this news and will continue to fight for the public schools every child deserves.”

For over 50 years, the Milwaukee Teachers’ Education Association has been a champion for public education in Milwaukee. The Milwaukee Teachers’ Education Association represents over 4,500 educators and support personnel who make Milwaukee’s public education system possible. MTEA, an affiliate of the National Education Association is the largest educators local in Wisconsin. Learn more at mtea.weac.org.

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