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Media Release

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Edina Public Schools recommends Dr. Beth Russell for principal of South View Middle School

Edina, Minn., June 09, 2009 – Edina Public Schools is pleased to announce its recommendation to hire Dr. Beth Russell as the principal of South View Middle School. The School Board will take action on this recommendation at the June 22 School Board meeting.

Russell is returning to South View after serving as an assistant principal there from 1995-1999. She brings more than 15 years of middle-school administration experience to Edina. Since July of 2001, Russell has been employed by Minneapolis Public Schools as a principal of Anwatin Middle School. For the past year, she has worked as director of the Institute for Learning (principal on special assignment). In this role, Russell was in charge of implementing the teaching and learning framework for the Minneapolis district.



Prior to her Minneapolis tenure, Russell was employed by St. Anthony/New Brighton Public Schools as a middle school principal. She was in this position for two years before deciding to leave for the opportunity to be a principal at a larger, urban middle school.

“I am pleased that Beth is joining our Edina Public Schools team, said Superintendent Ric Dressen. “Her leadership skills in team building, data assessment and instructional improvement will be a real asset to South View’s educational goals. Her deep passion for ensuring the success of all students will have an immediate impact on the District.”

Russell holds a bachelor’s degree from Colorado State University in child development and family relations. She received a master’s degree in social work and a doctor of education from the University of Minnesota.

In her application letter, Russell said, “I believe all students can learn, given time, expert instruction and effort on meaningful tasks...If I believe all students can learn, then I must also believe all teachers can learn, and as a principal, ask myself how am I going to ensure that they are learning?”

Russell will begin her employment with Edina Public Schools on July 1, 2009.

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