



**NEWS RELEASE**

**FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS**  
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*Business Services .....Lawrence A. Martini*  
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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

*November 15, 2010*

# **Donna Friedmann chosen as new HR director for FL schools**

**FOREST LAKE, MINN.** – Human Resources executive Donna Friedmann has been hired by the Forest Lake Area School Board to become the next Director of Administration and Human Resources for Forest Lake Area Schools.

The board, by a 6-0 vote, approved the hiring at a special meeting on Monday.

Friedmann, currently the Director of Human Resources at New Prague Area Public Schools, was chosen from among 50 applicants through a thorough review and interview process. Superintendent Linda Madsen, in consultation with parents, community members and district staff, made the selection late last week.

Madsen said that Friedmann has indicated that she will be resigning from her current job to take over the position soon to be vacated by current Administration and Human Resources Director Ron Spies, who will be retiring at the end of December.

Friedmann – who possesses a diverse background in human resources, employment law and contract negotiation – has been at her current position in New Prague since 2004. Prior to that, she worked as an attorney and contract organizer for the Eden Prairie office of the Service Employees International Union (SEIU) from 1994 to 2002, and she served as the union’s contract organizer director from 2002 through 2004.

(MORE)

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## **HR Director Hiring**

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She is a 1989 graduate of Purdue University, having earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and German, with a minor in Russian. Friedmann received her J.D. degree from the William Mitchell College of Law in St. Paul in 1993 and has been a licensed attorney ever since.

“We are extremely happy to welcome Donna to Forest Lake Area Schools,” said Madsen.

“Ron Spies has been a wonderful Administration and Human Resources Director, and he will be greatly missed,” Madsen said. “But in his absence, we strongly believe that the background, skills and qualities that Donna Friedmann brings to the table make her an excellent choice for this position. We think that the district will greatly benefit from her work here.”

Friedmann is expected to begin her duties at Forest Lake Area Schools on Dec. 13.

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