**Minnesota Association of School Administrators**

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**News Release**

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**Peggy Flathmann Named Administrator of Excellence**

(St. Paul, MN) – The Minnesota Association of School Administrators (MASA) has named Peggy Flathmann, Superintendent of Fridley Public Schools, as a 2018 Administrator of Excellence. Flathmann received this award in recognition of her leadership, concern for students, and active involvement in professional and community affairs. She was honored at a statewide recognition ceremony during the MASA/MASE Spring Conference, March 8-9, 2018, at the Minneapolis Marriott Northwest in Brooklyn Park.

Flathmann’s achievements reflect her ability to lead important changes in the educational system. Flathmann has worked in education for 40 years. She became Superintendent at Fridley Public Schools in 2009 and prior to the superintendency she was the Director of Educational Services. Flathmann has worked in teaching and administrative roles across the Midwest, as a high school principal, English teacher, and counselor. In Minnesota, she previously worked in the Centennial School District, where she was a middle school co-principal, principal and district assistant superintendent.

Upon her arrival, the district was beginning its journey toward becoming an International Baccalaureate (IB) World Schools district. Fridley Public Schools had joined the Northwest Suburban Integration School District (NWSISD) and was in the process of becoming a magnet school district. Of the three different magnet school strands, IB was chosen because of its framework to provide a unique and rigorous education. The program develops culturally-aware and internationally-minded students who are equipped to take on a rapidly changing world and an increasingly globalized economic market.

Today, IB coursework is available to all Fridley students. All students participate in the Primary Years Programme and Middle Years Programme as they progress through the schools in the district. At the junior and senior level, students have the opportunity to continue with IB coursework even if they are not enrolled in the Diploma Programme or Career-related Programme. This allows all students to reap the benefits of participating in rigorous IB courses and develop a strong foundation for college and career readiness.

Flathmann earned her master’s degree in Educational Administration at the University of Northern Iowa and her doctorate's degree in Educational Leadership from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul.

Each year, MASA recognizes members for their contribution to public education. MASA is a professional organization of Minnesota’s school leaders, including superintendents, assistant superintendents, directors of special education, and other central office administrators, as well as state department administrators, college and university professors, and other educators throughout Minnesota dedicated to educational leadership for students.

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