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New associate principal selected for Salem Hills Elementary School.

Tina Willette has been named associate principal of Salem Hills Elementary School, the district's most diverse school and home to the Atheneum program for gifted and talented students.

Inver Grove Heights Community Schools had several highly-qualified applicants competing for the position. Willette's recent experience serving as a reading instruction specialist for Saint Paul Public Schools made her a standout candidate. ISD 199 administration has proposed to institute Literacy by Design as its new reading curriculum in 2011-2012. In the proposed curriculum, reading literacy is the driving force that allows students to excel in all core subject areas.

"Ms. Willette's recent success implementing a new reading program in her previous district will benefit Salem Hills' students and staff," said Superintendent Dr. Deirdre Wells. "Her commitment to achieving reading proficiency will help prepare students for their transition to middle school."

Other positions Willette has held include service learning coordinator, literacy coach, staff development coordinator and classroom teacher.

Salem Hills' former principal, Jean Vogel, retired in June after serving as a principal in the district for the last 22 years.

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Willette's appointment was approved at the June 27, 2011 Board of Education meeting. She will begin her duties on July 1, 2011.

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