

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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OASD Media Contact: Katie Nieman, Communication Director
920.966.0080, katie.nieman@oshkosh.k12.wi.us



Oshkosh Area School District Appoints Kelly Skifstad as New Director of Special Education

Oshkosh, WI – The Oshkosh Area School District Board of Education has approved the appointment of Kelly Skifstad as the district's new director of special education, effective July 1, 2025. Skifstad will succeed Linda Pierron, who is retiring after years of dedicated service to the district.

Skifstad returns to the district where she previously served from 2013-2023 in progressively responsible roles, including special education teacher, special education department program support teacher, and district special education coordinator.

"Kelly's service-oriented leadership approach and deep understanding of our district make her the ideal person to lead our special education department," said Dr. Bryan Davis, OASD superintendent. "Her commitment to inclusive practices and strategic improvement aligns perfectly with our district's vision of excellence for all students."

In her current role as a program specialist for special education in Marion County Public Schools in Florida, serving over 43,000 students, Skifstad oversees specialized programs, ensures compliance with state and federal regulations, and supports teacher development through coaching and professional learning opportunities.

During her previous tenure with the Oshkosh Area School District, Skifstad collaborated with literacy and math departments to develop professional learning plans, designed a multi-year special education strategic plan focused on co-planning and co-serving students with disabilities, and partnered with principals to improve special education processes and strengthen inclusion efforts.

Skifstad has over 12 years of experience as an educator and five years of leadership in special education. She holds a Bachelor of Science from the University of Wisconsin-Superior and a Master of Science in Educational Leadership from the University of Wisconsin-Oshkosh.

"I am thrilled to return to the Oshkosh Area School District in this leadership capacity,"

said Skifstad. "My leadership philosophy is service-oriented, grounded in the belief that empowering staff, students, and the broader educational community fosters professional, academic, and personal growth. I look forward to contributing to a district that values equity and excellence in special education."

Skifstad will officially begin her new role on July 1, 2025, following a transition period to ensure continuity of services for students, families, and staff.

About the OASD: Building community through education. The Oshkosh Area School District is located in Oshkosh, Wisconsin, serving over 9,000 students and operating 11 elementary schools, four middle schools, two high schools, and an eAcademy. For more information, visit www.oshkosh.k12.wi.us.

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