



NEWS

For immediate release

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AMBER SOIKE NAMED PRINCIPAL OF FOREST ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

July 17, 2024

Des Plaines--Amber Soike was named Principal of Forest Elementary School at the July 15 Board of Education Meeting.

"I am deeply honored to have the privilege of joining Forest Elementary School as principal," said Soike. "I am eager to begin building relationships with staff, students, and their families and to team together to ensure each child's success."

Soike joins the district with 12 years of experience in public education. For the last three years, Soike served as the assistant principal at Tioga Elementary School in Bensenville. Prior to her time as a school leader, Soike served for five years in East Maine School District 63 as a 2nd and 6th grade teacher, for two years in Chicago Public Schools as a 2nd and 3rd grade teacher, and for two years in Riverdale CUSD 100 as a 5th grade teacher.

"I am thrilled to announce the appointment of this innovative leader," said Superintendent of Schools Dr. Michael Amadei. "Amber Soike brings a wealth of experience, dedication and passion to supporting young minds. I have no doubt that under Ms. Soike's leadership, Forest Elementary will continue to soar to new heights. Please join me in welcoming Ms. Soike to the Forest learning community."

Soike graduated from Augustana College in 2012 with Bachelor's degrees in both Elementary Education and Psychology. After teaching for two years,



Soike pursued and completed the Chicago Teacher Residency program through the Academy for Urban School Leadership and earned a Master's degree in Urban Education from National-Louis University in 2015. Soike earned her Master's degree in Educational Leadership from Northeastern Illinois University in 2020.

In her spare time, Soike enjoys visiting new coffee shops and restaurants, reading fiction novels, spending time with family and friends, and playing pickleball. Soike also enjoys cheering for the Chicago Cubs, Bears, Bulls, Blackhawks, Sky and the Indiana Fever either in person or on TV. Soike is excited to learn more about the school community by joining upcoming school events, district events, and local events in the Des Plaines and Rosemont communities.

"Relationships are the foundation for everything else. As I prepare to step into the principal role at Forest, I plan to prioritize building relationships with students, their families, and the District 62 staff," said Soike. "I am truly looking forward to partnering with a team of dedicated professionals to provide a safe, welcoming, and engaging learning environment where all students are able to experience and achieve success on a regular basis"

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