



**FOREST LAKE AREA SCHOOLS
FOREST LAKE, MN 55025**

October 3, 2013

AGENDA ITEM: 9.2

TOPIC: Special Education and Other Programming

BACKGROUND: Administration and School Board Members have been considering the needs of students with significant and challenging behavioral and cognitive needs and optional programming solutions for meeting those needs. The notion of opening a day treatment program in collaboration with a mental health agency was explored along with the funding obligations. In addition, the board requested that administration consider the scope of programming available through NE Metro Intermediate School District 916 ("916"), the cost of membership and whether or not student needs could be met through existing programming at 916. This would require that Forest Lake Area School District become a member of 916. Board members heard a presentation on the comparative costs associated with 916 membership on September 5, 2013 and the Staff Welfare Committee heard a presentation from the 916 administration on programming and other services available through 916 on September 17, 2013.

RECOMMENDATION: Administration is recommending that the district become a member of NE Metro Intermediate School District 916 effective November 2013.