



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

January 18, 2018

AGENDA ITEM: 4.1

TOPIC: Legislative Platform

BACKGROUND: Adopting a legislative platform allows the school district to provide a consistent message when communicating with legislators.

PROCESS: Significant funding inequities exist between school districts. Advocacy with the Minnesota Legislature and working directly with our local legislators is critically important for the school district to address funding shortfalls.

Besides identifying the issue(s), we need to also provide solutions to our legislators that are fair, reasonable, and within their power to accomplish. The following three solutions will serve as the Legislative Agenda for the Forest Lake Area School District.

1. Increase the current \$300 board-approved referendum authority to the current voter approved standard referendum cap (\$1,928.58 for 2018).
2. Increase aid to Forest Lake Area Schools for funding that exceeds the Transportation Sparsity Allowance provided under the current transportation formula.
3. Increase the state's per-pupil funding formula allowance by 2% for the 2018-2019 school year.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the legislative platform.