



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

**January 10, 2019**

**AGENDA ITEM:** 12.12

**TOPIC:** Approve the 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. Special Education Funding - Increase state funding to cover districts' unfunded special education costs (cross subsidy).
2. Transportation - Increase aid to Forest Lake Area Schools for funding that exceeds the Transportation Sparsity Allowance provided under the current transportation formula.
3. Per Pupil Basic Funding Formula - Increase the state's per-pupil funding formula allowance by 4% for the 2019-2020 school year.

**RECOMMENDATION:** Approve the legislative platform.