



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

September 1, 2011

AGENDA ITEM: 8.6

**TOPIC: Approve Teacher Education Redesign Initiative (TERI)
Memorandum of Understanding**

BACKGROUND: The College of Education and Human Development at the University of Minnesota has engaged in a “significant re-visioning” of their teacher education program. In an effort to engage P-12 partners in Minnesota, the University has invited various districts to be involved in the conversation, leading to potential involvement in placing teacher candidates in new and different preparation opportunities for student teaching. Partnering districts could potentially benefit from the development of professional development schools (PDS), as well as opportunities for tenured teachers to engage in professional development, increased leadership opportunities, and continued professional growth.

PROCESS: During the 2010-11 school year, the University of Minnesota and Forest Lake Area Schools continued discussions around this initiative. Lino Lakes Elementary has been identified as a Professional Development School (PDS) and will host three teacher candidates throughout the 2011-12 school year. Forest Lake Area High School will continue conversations with university personnel as they explore the idea of becoming a PDS for the 2012-13 school year. Teachers and administrators in the district have been involved with all phases of the initiative from participating in multi-state Bush summit meetings, to being trained in the co-teaching model.

The attached Memorandum of Understanding is a renewal of the previous MOU approved for the 2010-11 school year and contains only minor changes from the previous MOU. These changes reflect the work of the last year and the plans for 2011-12.

RECOMMENDATION: Approval of the Memorandum of Understanding concerning the continued TERI partnership as outlined.