



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

November 1, 2012

AGENDA ITEM: 10.1

TOPIC: Election Equipment Cost Sharing

BACKGROUND: Anoka County has election voting equipment that is in need of replacement. The equipment and its software run on a DOS platform that is no longer supported, and new units and parts are no longer available in the marketplace.

Anoka County Staff collaborated with Election Managers of several other MN Counties, and with the Office of the Secretary of State to determine needs and options. They also procured grant funds issued through the Help America Vote Act to partially offset the cost of the replacement.

PROCESS: A task force, comprised of city and school administrators and board members, has met twice in 2012 to review, discuss, and adjust the plan to purchase new voting equipment throughout Anoka County.

The task force is recommending adoption of a joint powers agreement between election jurisdictions in Anoka County that establishes Anoka County as the sole owner of the voting equipment system and calls for an annual fee to be paid to the county by cities and school districts to supplement system costs.

RECOMMENDATION: First Reading.