



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

September 2, 2010

AGENDA ITEM: 10.1

**TOPIC: PROPOSED SECONDARY CREDIT CHANGES FOR THE
2011-12 SCHOOL YEAR**

BACKGROUND: Based on a study of the new Minnesota Academic Standards for Science, the testing schedules associated with the standards, and alignment work of the Science Curriculum Review Committee, a recommendation for an increase in grades 7-12 science credits was brought to district administration.

PROCESS: For many years, FLAS has had fewer science requirements at the junior high level when compared with other Minnesota school districts. With changes in standards, it has become difficult to place standards and address them adequately within the current schedule and credit requirement. At the high school, the science curriculum review team also identified the need for an additional ½ credit of science to meet the standards.

The proposal involves increasing the science requirements at the junior high by a ½ credit and at the senior high by a ½ credit. It is also proposed to increase the electives available in 8th and 9th grade and at the high school.

With the addition of any credits, other requirements will be taken away. Four departments at the junior high level will lose required credits.

Art will lose 1/4 required credit at grade 7 and 1/4 required credit at grade 8.

Business will lose 1/4 required credit at grade 9.

FACS will lose 1/4 required credit at grade 8.

Industrial Tech will lose 1/4 required credit at grade 7.

FACS/Industrial Tech will lose 1/4 required credit at grade 9.

The other area considered for a reduction at grade 7 was music. Currently 1 credit is required at 7th grade. With guidance from the Staff Welfare committee, administration was advised to reduce Art, Business, FACS, and Industrial Tech.

Social Studies will be reduced by a ½-required credit at the high school.

The proposed changes will be reflected in Policy 613, Graduation Requirements. Changes in language will be discussed at the upcoming Policy Committee meeting.

RECOMMENDATION: First reading of proposed credit changes at the secondary level.