



# Roseville Area Schools

*Quality Teaching & Learning for All ...Equity in All We Do*

*Serving:  
Arden Hills  
Falcon Heights  
Lauderdale  
Little Canada  
Maplewood  
Roseville  
Shoreview*

May, 2014

To Whom it May Concern,

This letter is written at the request of Deb Schipper of West Metro Learning Connections Lotus Division as an endorsement of the excellent services provided to students with Autism Spectrum Disorders in educational settings. Here in Roseville Area Schools: Independent School District 623 our students, their families and the school staff have had the benefit of caring and professional staff members from West Metro Learning Connections in a variety of situations.

We have found the exceptional leadership of Deb Schipper and Mark McCaghy to be a critical factor in the success of student programming and consultation provided by the agency. West Metro Learning Connections staff has provided individualized observations and assessment, evaluation and programming for young people who struggle with challenges such as sensory integration issues, communication disorders, anxiety and obsessive-compulsive behavior. The staff use strategies in perspective-taking, behavior intervention, visual schedules and cues, environmental design and adaptations in collaboration with school teams and parents for effective problem solving.

We have at least one student currently anticipating middle school in the fall who presents a different profile now, having received extensive one-to-one services and ongoing consultation from West Metro Learning Connections a number of years ago. The use of compassionate and creative interventions--consistently applied and regularly measured for effectiveness--is a recipe for success!

Sincerely,

Chris Sonenblum, Ph.D.  
Director of Student Services  
Roseville Area Schools