M E M O R A N D U M

**TO: RANDY POE, SUPERINTENDENT**

 **BONNIE RICKERT, CHAIRPERSON**

 **BOARD MEMBERS**

**FROM: KATHLEEN G. REUTMAN**

**DATE: OCTOBER 29, 2018**

**RE: LETTER OF REQUEST FROM FLORENCE ELEMENTARY REGARDING VOLUNTEERS THROUGH PET PARTNERS**

 Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati is a non-profit organization founded in 2004 as the tristate resource for the human-animal bond and to validate the important role of animals for people's health and well-being. They have strict guidelines for evaluating volunteer Therapy Animal teams and providing Animal-Assisted Activities and Animal Assisted Therapy services. They train volunteers and screen pets to visit acute, rehabilitation and palliative healthcare facilities, group homes and schools throughout the Greater Cincinnati/Northern Kentucky Metro area. Therapy Pets of Greater Cincinnati values animals’ safety and welfare as their highest priority while helping their pets to share their unconditional love with others. Client confidentiality, including compliance with HIPAA regulations, is assured. They have been recognized by the Internal Revenue Service as a not-for-profit organization under Section 501(c)(3) since March, 2005, and are further classified as a public charity under Section 170(b)(1)(A)(vi).

This all volunteer organization would with Florence Elementary to schedule weekly visits by the dogs and their handlers.

**I have attached the Letter of Request from Lisa Resing, Principal for your reference.**

 ***I recommend the Board approve the request to use Pet Partners, as presented***