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**School Board Workshop**  
**November 6, 2008**

**Educational State Plant Survey 2008-2009 thru 2012-2013**

Every five years each school district must submit an Educational State Plant Survey per Florida Statute 1013.31. The Educational State Plant Survey is a 5-year planning tool, which determines the future needs for schools and additions.

The capital funding sources that are affected by the Educational State Plant Survey are Public Education Capital Outlay (PECO), Capital Outlay & Debt Service, Millage, Class Size Reduction (CSR) and certificates of Participation (COPS).

It has been eight years since the last Plant Survey was done in Broward County. An extension was requested and approved for the last three years. There was a controversy between Broward County's student numbers and the State's numbers. This was reviewed by the State and then denied. Interestingly, portables are counted as permanent capacity regarding the Plant Survey. When speaking of concurrency, which is again a planning tool from the State, portables are not counted as permanent capacity. Broward County schools must consider both of these planning tools plus class size and level of service when planning schools and student stations.

The Broward County Schools District Educational Facilities 5-Year Plan (DEFP) was approved last August 2008 realizing that the School Board Members would have to come back to further review this document once the Plant Survey was completed.

Declining enrollment at Broward County Public Schools could prevent several planned schools and classroom additions from being built, including a new high school to relieve Cypress Bay High School. A preliminary survey of the district's facilities shows more than 34,800 empty seats in the Broward County School District for the 2012-2013 school year. State rules prohibit building more schools or classroom additions while there are seats available elsewhere.

The School Board Chair requested staff to see the cost for transportation to schools with open seats and compare to the cost of building an addition. This data could be used when requesting a spot survey.

School Board Members want to make it clear that it is the State that is mandating the Plant Survey and use of construction money and not the School District. In simple layman, staff is requested to be very clear regarding what the Plant Survey is, the need to change the millage, why new schools cannot be built, and why students may be moved to other schools.

Contracts that were signed before October 2008, before the Plant survey was done, would go forward.

The DEFP was submitted to the state for review and the projected date of completion is mid-December.

This year, there will be different benchmarks when doing boundaries. Class Size Reduction and level of service will be broken down into strict succinct portions to examine.

The School Board Members came together today for a preview of what is to come regarding the Plant Survey. Once the Plant Survey is approved and there are school situations where additional space is needed, a spot survey can be requested, which would then be approved or disapproved by the State. Building additional space would be allowed if a spot survey were approved.

There are so many factors that influence the numbers of students in each school, such as class size reduction, concurrency, boundaries, No Child Left Behind and a charter school closing.

In a subsequent conversation, scheduled for November 12, 2008, the School Board will talk about the Plant Survey in regards to class size and level of service.

The School Board is hoping that if building is restricted, those dollars can be directed to do other projects, such as covered walkways, playgrounds and roof repairs. The School Board Members also plan to minimize any disruption to students who may have to be moved to other schools.

The Superintendent believes we will meet these challenges, and with his Leadership staff, has a tactical plan in place.

This presentation may be found on the eAgenda November 6, 2008 workshop.

JFN:jd