

# School Board Update 10/5/11

## Zoning Advertisement

The School Board had a special meeting this morning to approve the advertisement for the upcoming zoning. All the plans are posted on the district website, [www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us), under What's New. The following plans were approved for advertisement in advance of a final vote on the matter on November 8.

Elementary L - the new school being built in the Palencia area: Plan F. In addition to the core area of all plans and some areas to the north, this plan pulls students from Ketterlinus Elementary, freeing space there for one geocode from R. B. Hunt, which is overcrowded.

Other Growth Areas Northeast - divides Nocatee to move the northern section from Ponte Vedra/Palm Valley Rawlings Elementary to Ocean Palms Elementary.

Other Growth Areas Northwest: There are several parts to this zoning.

Plan G was chosen to give relief to Durbin Creek Elementary and Fruit Cove Middle School. It moves geocode 044104 and Sawmill Point in Julington Creek Plantation from Durbin Creek Elementary to Julington Creek Elementary. No changes are made in the middle and high school zoning of these areas. It moves Durbin Crossing South to Hickory Creek Elementary and Switzerland Point Middle and moves Aberdeen from Fruit Cove Middle to Switzerland Point Middle. No changes are made to high school zoning in this area. It also moves on area from Timberlin Creek Elementary to Hickory Creek Elementary. Every effort will be made to work with the developer of Durbin Crossing to construct that community's K-8 school at the earliest possible date.

The Orangedale region is rezoned from Nease to Bartram Trail. In addition, Glen St. Johns is rezoned from Nease High to Bartram Trail. I have requested that any student who is currently enrolled at a particular high school (regardless of their grade) be given the option to finish high school in their current school if they provide their own transportation. This choice will be offered to current students only and is not open to younger siblings or new students who move in next year.

Again, the final vote on these plans will be taken at the November School Board meeting.

I want to thank everyone for being so engaged in the process, for providing comments, and for crafting alternate plans. Many of the ideas were incorporated in the plans that are now advertised. I realize that many people are disappointed and many are relieved. Zoning always creates these types of reactions. The School Board is

endeavoring to select the plan that will provide the relief we need at overcrowded schools and utilize space at schools where it is available.

### **Parent Resource Guide**

The Parent Resource Guide, which provides a wealth of information on everything from lunch prices, graduation requirements (which are different depending on when a student begins 9th grade), the various course paths through middle and high school, to lists and descriptions of academy offerings and much, much more. The Guide can be found on the district website, [www.stjohns.k12.fl.us](http://www.stjohns.k12.fl.us), under Parents at the bottom of the homepage. I encourage everyone to explore the information contained there to get answers to questions you may have concerning our schools.

### **Superintendent's State of the Schools Address**

On Monday, October 17, Dr. Joyner will share his annual State of the Schools Address. The event begins with a reception at 5:30 PM followed by the presentation at 6:30 PM. It will be held at the School District offices, 40 Orange Street, St. Augustine. I hope many of you will be able to attend.

### **Veterans Sunset Celebration**

Mark you calendars for the 3rd Annual Veterans Sunset Celebration to be held at Veterans Park on Veterans Expressway on November 10. The event hours are 5:30-8:30 PM and will include entertainment from Hickory Creek Elementary Chorus, Fruit Cove Middle School Jazz Band, and presentation of colors by the Bartram Trail Air Force ROTC. Food, a bounce house, and military displays will be featured. I especially encourage all our local veterans to attend so that we may thank you for your service to our country.

Thank you as always for your commitment to public education. Our schools are great because of involved parents, teachers, and staff like you!

Beverly Slough  
Vice Chair  
St. Johns County School Board