

**District Advisory Council
Unapproved Minutes
May 15, 2019**

The School Board of Alachua County *District Advisory Council* (DAC) was called to order at 3:30 p.m. in the District Office Boardroom, 620 East University Avenue, Gainesville, Florida.

Members Present:	John Bailey	Robert Hyatt	Rachel Meek
	Adam Boukari	Jackie Johnson	Tori Messer
	Karen Clarke	Isaac Jones	Michele O’Neal
	Cynthia Chesnut	Jessie Jung	Jan Wharton
	Quentin Eyman	Sue Legg	Regina Wims

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS Board Chairman, Mr. Robert Hyatt, welcomed members, and stated that the minutes could not be approved, as there was no quorum. He mentioned that the meeting would be a wrap-up of the plans from this year. Next year, they will restart the process with new requests. John Gilreath, DRMP, was introduced.

PRESENTATION – JOHN GILREATH Mr. Gilreath presented a PowerPoint entitled, “Alachua County Public Schools Facilities Investment Initiative.” It included the District Projects Schedule.

The Initiative overview was presented with a focus on classroom space.

Initiative input was received by Community forums, Principal meetings, SPAC, and Facilities.

District’s Goals were then presented.

The process was explained from the Design phase, to the Permitting phase, and then the Construction Timelines.

Discussion and question/answer period ensued. Some questions included:

- What was the time anticipated for School I? Mr. Gilreath explained the contract was negotiated and they are in the 3rd and 4th month of the design process.
- Who reviews the submittals at 30%, 60%, and 90%? Mr. Gilreath explained internal staff will review. There are plans for two additional Project Manager Positions.
- Will we be using in-house or consultants? Mr. Gilreath answered consultants. Management will be from the School Board level.
- Why will UF be used as part of the permitting and not the City? Director of Maintenance and Construction, Tom Cowart, clarified the history of the reviewing process and why we entered an agreement with the UF Department of Environmental Health and Safety.
- A question was raised about a Construction Manager or Project Manager. Assistant Superintendent of Operations, Paul White, explained there will be one for each school.

- Who is responsible for the General Contractor and will there be minority participation? Mr. White said they are putting something in place for minority contractors.

Mr. Gilreath continued his PowerPoint and informed the committee of the effort to date, what they have, and what they've done. Additional details and project classifications were reviewed. Schedule consideration and additional considerations were explained. The three project tiers are as follows:

- Tier I – Selected to immediately address capacity and equity
- Tier II – Project list based on District criteria and review
- Tier III – Projects selected to impact the District in the first five years

Discussion and question/answer period ensued. Some questions included:

- Question on Finance or Drawdown. Superintendent, Karen Clarke, explained the Assistant Superintendent of Finance, Alex Rella, is already looking ahead. The tax money comes in on a monthly basis.
- During Tier 1, can we put signs up for the public? Mrs. Clarke explained that is already being done.
- Do we have a more specific timeline? How should we answer questions from the public about the time table? Mr. Gilreath explained we are still in the planning stage.
- Any examples? Mrs. Clarke explained that each site will look different.
- The question was raised about Metcalfe being a STEM school. They have low student numbers. Mr. Gilreath explained all have low student numbers, but Metcalfe stood out. Since it is an older school, they will do some phasing, and address equity and capacity.

Public Information Officer Jackie Johnson explained that our website will show project updates. Mr. Gilreath noted it will also list Sales Tax Facilities Projects for each school. There will be a third party link and one to the school website.

Mr. Gilreath opened up the floor for discussion. Committee was able to preview the link to the draft map. Mr. Gilreath noted that the website is ADA compliant. Further questions were as follows:

- The question was raised and agreed upon about putting up signage to show the economic impact in our community, for example, 12 years of jobs.
- Do we have state money for campus security? Mrs. Johnson explained we have additional funding from sales tax.
- Is there a DOE threshold? Mrs. Johnson explained the state will be giving a little more flexibility with the spending plan per student station.
- How do we explain why one school gets work done and not others? A member asked for a Q & A session for the public to address those concerns. Mr. Gilreath said he would work on that. He noted again, it is classroom space capacity driven.

Members concluded this has been a huge production and the district has done an awesome job. Members asked if the data could be shared with the Chamber of Commerce.

Mrs. Johnson told committee members that she would share the link to the draft map with them. It has not been finalized yet, but she would like members to use the site and give her feedback.

Mr. Gilreath thanked the committee for their time.

ADJOURNMENT The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.