

INTER-OFFICE COMMUNICATION

DATE: February 16, 2010
TO: Mayor Pegeen Hanrahan and Members of the City Commission
VIA: Russ Blackburn, City Manager
FROM: Paul Folkers, Assistant City Manager PF
SUBJECT: Potential Merger of Metcalfe and Rawlings Elementary Schools

Based on Commissioner Mastrodicasa's e-mail last Friday, I contacted Alachua County Public Schools Superintendent Dan Boyd to ask about any plans for consolidation of Metcalfe and Rawlings Elementary Schools. I spoke with Superintendent Boyd this afternoon and he confirmed that a consolidation of these two schools is being proposed for implementation at the beginning of the next school year.

Superintendent Boyd indicated that attendance at these schools has continued to decline and that there is enough population to support one elementary school. He indicated that the proposal is to consolidate into Metcalfe Elementary since it is larger. Rawlings Elementary will be proposed to be converted into an Early Childhood Learning Center focused on school readiness.

The proposal is scheduled to be presented to the School Board on March 2, 2010. A public hearing on the proposal will be held later in March with the School Board likely to take action on the proposal on April 20, 2010.

City staff will attend the March 2, 2010 meeting and can provide an update to the City Commission at the March 4, 2010 Commission meeting.

PF:hh

Cc: Erik Bredfeldt, Planning & Development Services
Fred Murry, Assistant City Manager
Bob Woods, Communications Manager