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July 28, 2006

Dr. Dan Boyd, Superintendent School Board of Alachua County 620 East University Avenue Gainesville, Florida 32601

Dear Dan:

I hope your breather from the academic school year has gone well. In a recent discussion regarding the quality of life in our community, the City Commission emphasized the importance of education in the lives of our residents and its importance to the long-term growth of the City. The City Commission, through this discussion, asked that I contact you to request a joint meeting between the School Board of Alachua County (SBAC) and the City Commission. The City Commission has requested that the SBAC provide an overall picture of the academic and physical plant health of schools that serve City residents. The Commission has also asked that the SBAC provide information on standardized test performance for students in the City by school: graduation rates by race and income, and an overall assessment of the capital status of schools located within the City of Gainesville. The SBAC may also want to provide suggestions as to how the City Commission could facilitate additional City resident involvement to improve student performance, and upgrades to facilities within the City.

I have reviewed the City Commission's long-term calendar and a meeting at 5:00 p.m. or 6:00 p.m. on October 2, 2006 would appear to work for the City Commission.

Please contact me with potential dates in the early Fall for the proposed joint meeting. I look forward to hearing from you.

Sincerely.

Russ Blackburn City Manager

RB.rs

Cc: Hon. Mayor and City Commission

Charter Officers
Barbara Lipscomb