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Creating Schools of the Future

District-Wide Needs

Modernize: replace, renovate or remodel old/outdated facilities

Maintenance: Roofing, HVAC, flooring, paint, windows/doors, etc.

Capacity: build new space, eliminate portables, etc.



Average district building is 34 years old, 41 years weighted by square footage

Our #1 goal is revitalizing existing schools!



Elementary classroom of the future

Maintenance

- A majority of AC units and roofs are well past their useful life span
- Currently the district is mostly 'patching'
- Lack of sufficient funding for regular maintenance means bigger and more expensive repairs later on



Why Maintenance Matters

- 2018 study from the National Bureau of Economic Research shows lack of adequate AC hurts student achievement
- “The impact of heat on achievement is three times as large for black and Hispanic students as for white students.”
- The effect of heat accounts for up to 13% of the U.S. racial achievement gap
- Impact is long-lasting and affects future income

the NATIONAL BUREAU of ECONOMIC RESEARCH

Heat and Learning

Joshua Goodman, Michael Hurwitz, Jisung Park, Jonathan Smith

NBER Working Paper No. 24639
Issued in May 2018

NBER Program(s): Economics of Education, Environment and Energy Economics, Labor Studies

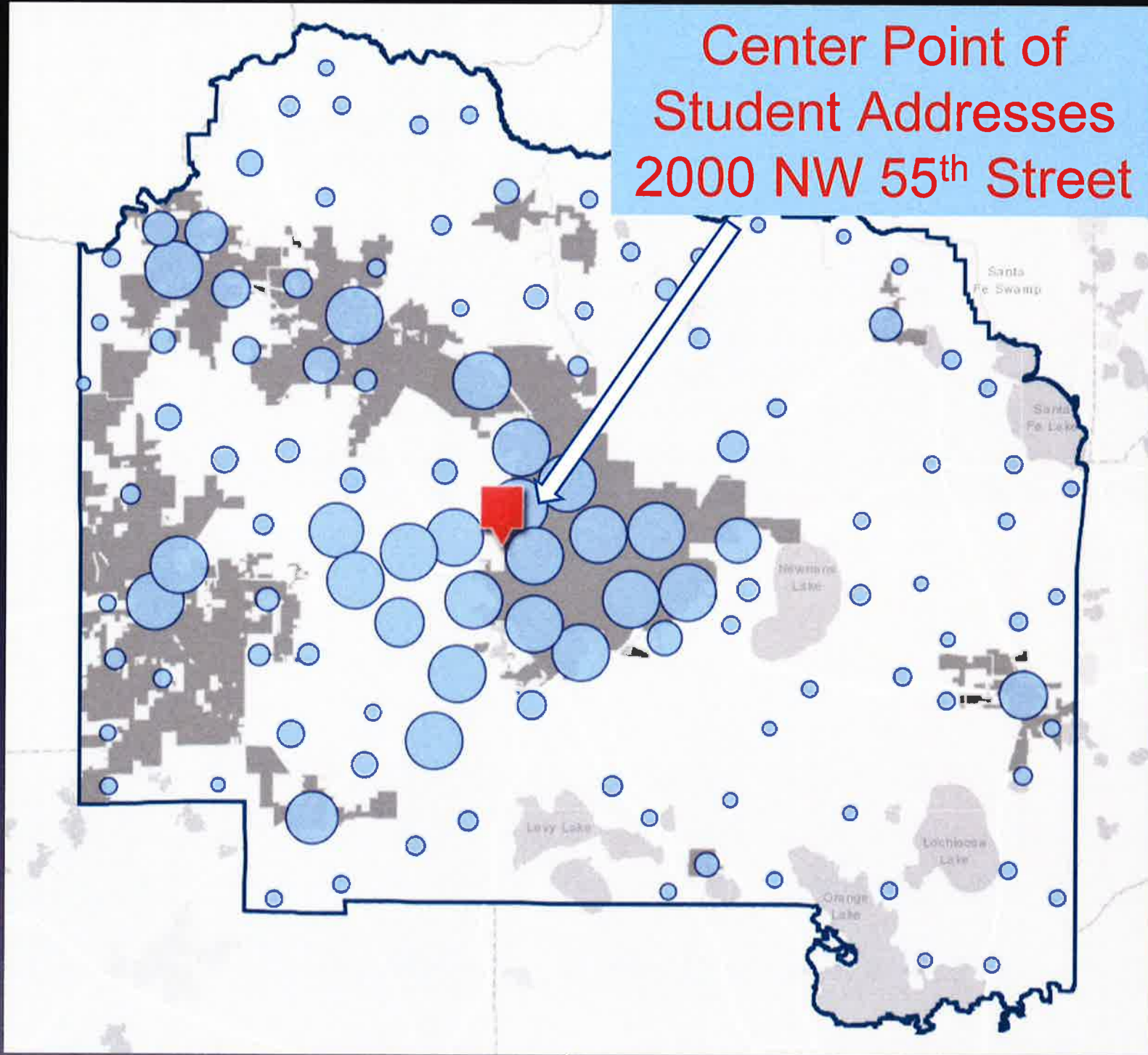
We provide the first evidence that cumulative heat exposure inhibits cognitive skill development and that school air conditioning can mitigate this effect. Student fixed effects models using 10 million PSAT-takers show that hotter school days in the year prior to the test reduce learning, with extreme heat being particularly damaging and larger effects for low income and minority students. Weekend and summer heat has little impact and the effect is not explained by pollution or local economic shocks, suggesting heat directly reduces the productivity of learning inputs. New data providing the first measures of school-level air conditioning penetration across the US suggest such infrastructure almost entirely offsets these effects. Without air conditioning, each 1°F increase in school year temperature reduces the amount learned that year by one percent. Our estimates imply that the benefits of school air conditioning likely outweigh the costs in most of the US, particularly given future predicted climate change.



Growth

- Projected students for 2018-19: 29,460 (+335)
- Average increase of 460 students annually for the last five years
- 15 of 20 elementary schools at or above 95% capacity; 11 are over 100% capacity
- 6000+ students in 300+ portables

**Center Point of
Student Addresses
2000 NW 55th Street**



Why Not Rezone?

- Rezoning all elementary school students would still leave the district 600 seats short



- Does not address future enrollment
- Does nothing to improve the conditions at existing schools

Facilities Goals

- Revitalize facilities to provide optimal learning environments (renovated classrooms, science labs, technology infrastructure, safety, comfort, etc.)
- Maintain schools on a regular basis
- Ensure core and classroom facilities are adequate for the number of children projected in our schools
- Replace portables with permanent classrooms

Sample Project List

Bishop Middle School

Built in 1962

Proposed projects:

- Demolish 18 buildings (classrooms, tech lab, computer room, kitchen dining, restrooms, etc.)
- Construct new 32-classroom building
- Construct 3 new science classrooms/labs
- Construct 2 new tech/business labs
- Construct new kitchen/dining/multipurpose building
- Renovate/modernize 7 existing classrooms
- Security improvements



Total proposed expenditures: \$16.1 million

Sample Project List

Gainesville High School



Built in 1955

Proposed projects:

- Demolish 14 buildings (classrooms, science labs, restrooms, etc.)
- Construct 29 new classrooms
- Construct 13 new science classrooms/labs
- Renovate/modernize 38 existing classrooms (art, ROTC, tech labs, etc.)
- Renovate/modernize kitchen, dining, auditorium, music
- Renovate/expand media center
- Security improvements

Total proposed expenditures: \$15.7 million

Combined State and Local Capital Revenues



Sales Tax Referendum



- Half-cent sales tax for 12 years
- All revenue generated will stay in Alachua County
- Half cent generates approximately \$22 million a year
- About 25%-35% a year paid by out-of-county visitors
- Creates hundreds of local, private sector jobs

Transparency

- Project list based on community input and expert review of facilities
- Oversight committee reviewing all expenditures
- Annual state and local audits

Monthly cost of $\frac{1}{2}$ cent
sales tax for average
Alachua County
household*

\$5

*Based on 2015 figures

Sales Taxes in Surrounding Counties

County	Current Sales Tax Rate
Alachua	6.50%
Union	7.00%
Bradford	7.00%
Clay	7.00%
Putnam	7.00%
Marion	7.00%
Levy	7.00%
Dixie	7.00%
Gilchrist	7.00%
Columbia	7.00%

Ballot Language

Half-Cent Sales Surtax to Improve School Facilities

Shall the School Board of Alachua County levy a half-cent sales surtax to finance safety and security improvements; repair, renovation and remodeling of Board-owned schools, including modernization of classrooms, science labs and other spaces; technology; elimination of portable classrooms; new construction; land acquisition and improvement; and other school facilities projects; with oversight by an independent citizens' committee? The tax would begin January 1, 2019, and last twelve years.

_____ For the Half-Cent Tax

_____ Against the Half-Cent Tax

It's the 2nd County Referenda!

No. 4 Constitutional Amendment, Article VI, Section 4	No. 9 Constitutional Revision Article II, Section 7, Article X, Section 20	County Referenda
Voting Restoration Amendment This amendment restores the voting rights of Floridians with felony convictions after they complete all terms of their sentence including parole or probation. The amendment would not apply to those convicted of murder or sexual offenses, who would continue to be permanently barred from voting unless the Governor and Cabinet vote to restore their voting rights on a case by case basis. The precise effect of this amendment on state and local government costs cannot be determined, but the operation of current voter registration laws, combined with an increased number of felons registering to vote, will produce higher overall costs relative to the processes in place today. The impact, if any, on state and local government revenues cannot be determined. The fiscal impact of any future legislation that implements a different process cannot be reasonably determined. <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Prohibits Offshore Oil and Gas Drilling; Prohibits Vaping in Enclosed Indoor Workplaces Prohibits drilling for the exploration or extraction of oil and natural gas beneath all state-owned waters between the mean high water line and the state's outermost territorial boundaries. Adds use of vapor-generating electronic devices to current prohibition of tobacco smoking in enclosed indoor workplaces with exceptions. permits more restrictive local vapor ordinances. <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO	Children's Trust of Alachua County - Authority to Levy One-Half Mill Ad Valorem Taxes
No. 5 Constitutional Amendment Article VII, Section 19	No. 10 Constitutional Revision Article III, Section 3, Article IV, Sections 4 and 11, Article VIII, Sections 1 and 6	In order to provide developmental, preventive, and supportive services for children, such as early learning supports and out of school enrichment programming, should an independent special district titled "The Children's Trust of Alachua County" be created and be authorized to levy an annual ad valorem tax not to exceed one-half (1/2) mill for 12 years? <input type="radio"/> YES <input type="radio"/> NO
Supermajority Vote Required to Impose, Authorize, or Raise State Taxes or Fees Prohibits the legislature from imposing, authorizing, or raising a state tax or fee except through legislation approved by a two-thirds vote of each house of the legislature in a bill containing no other subject. This proposal does not authorize a state tax or fee otherwise prohibited by the Constitution and does not apply to fees or taxes imposed or authorized to	State and Local Government Structure and Operation Requires legislature to retain department of veterans' affairs. Ensures election of sheriffs, property appraisers, supervisors of elections, tax collectors, and clerks of court in all counties; removes county charters' ability to abolish, change term, transfer duties, or eliminate election of these offices. Changes annual legislative session commencement date in even-numbered years from March to January; removes legislature's authorization to fix another date. Creates office of domestic security and counterterrorism within department of law enforcement. <input type="radio"/> YES	Half-Cent Sales Surtax to Improve School Facilities
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		Municipal Referenda
		Shall the Charter of the City of Gainesville be amended to create the Gainesville Regional Utilities Authority as the governing board of Gainesville Regional Utilities (GRU), whose

Endorsements (so far!)



For more information: Halfcentforschools.com



Home Donate Volunteer!

Alachua Schools

Volunteer

Donate

See the Projects

The state of
Alachua County School Facilities

Underfunded
\$170 million has been cut from Alachua County School facilities by the legislature over the past decade, while enrollment has grown.

Disrepair
29,000 students walk in every day to classrooms with broken AC's, leaking roofs, and portables. Research shows this hurt their education, our quality of life, and our economic growth.

Outdated
The average school is over 41 years old, with outdated classrooms and many schools over capacity. This leaves our children more vulnerable and less safe.