



MEDIA RELEASE

School Board of Manatee County

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SUPERINTENDENT READY TO RECOMMEND STATE ROAD 70 SITE FOR NEW MTI CAMPUS

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(Bradenton, FL. – December 7, 2009) Superintendent Tim McGonegal will ask members of the Manatee County School Board to approve a plan to change the location of a new campus for Manatee Technical Institute so that it will have a visible presence on State Road 70 near Caruso Road. The Superintendent will ask Board members to approve the new plan at a regularly scheduled board meeting on Monday, December 14, 2009 beginning at 5:45 p.m. at the School Support Center.

The School Board owns 195 acres of land at the State Road 70 and Caruso Road location which is currently home to Braden River High School. A previous plan called for the new MTI campus to be constructed on a 46-acre parcel behind Braden River High on Caruso Road, on the northern most part of the property. Under the Superintendent's new proposal, the new MTI site would be switched to the southern-most part of the property so that it would be noticeable from State Road 70. In addition to the change in sites for MTI, the Superintendent will recommend a new master plan be developed for the entire 195-acre parcel. The property is expected to eventually include a new elementary, middle or K-8 school in addition to Braden River High and MTI.

The Manatee County School Board has been actively seeking a new home for MTI since 2002. The new facilities are needed to replace the award-winning school's aging campus currently located at 34th Street West in Bradenton. The new location would not only enhance and update MTI's facilities, it would provide easier access to interested students from Manatee and surrounding counties because of its close proximity to Interstate 75.

(MORE)

Manatee Technical Institute has earned widespread recognition as one of the top technical schools in America. For six consecutive years, its students have won more medals than any other technical school in the country at the annual SkillsUSA Competition held in Kansas City.

“The time to build a new MTI is at hand,” said Superintendent Tim McGonegal. “In this day and age and in this economy, when 70 percent of all jobs require some kind of technical skill; the industry driven curriculum, continuing workforce development and academic skill enhancement offered at MTI are more essential than ever before. We’ve seen a thirteen percent increase in career preparation enrollment this school year at MTI and I believe this new plan for MTI will finally move us forward by creating the facilities we need to fully serve area’s needs.”

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