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## **PBCC to break ground on Technical Education Center in Belle Glade**

(Belle Glade, Fla. – Oct. 17, 2008) Palm Beach Community College will break ground on a Technical Education Center, a major education project in Belle Glade, at noon on Friday, Nov. 7.

The 21,259-square-foot Technical Education Center is envisioned as the start of economic redevelopment and revitalization for the area in order to stimulate growth and help the local economy. It will house programs such as welding, agricultural sciences, a corrections academy, and construction trades including carpentry, masonry, plumbing, welding, heavy bus/truck mechanic and electrical. In addition, it will house the Sugar Technology Institute which offers the only sugar technology degree in the United States.

Among the private funds raised, 100 percent will be matched from the state and will be paired with a capital investment expected to total to \$13 million. The building will be multi-functional with the possibility for future expansion to respond to changing program needs. Upon completion in the spring of 2010, the programs in the Center will offer world-class education and occupational training with state-of-the-art technology.

“The Foundation is extremely excited to support this critical building initiative,” said Suellen Mann, executive Director of PBCC’s Foundation. “No community in Palm Beach County is more deserving of a training facility that addresses the needs of local employers and empower its citizens to secure jobs, than those of Belle Glade. The

Foundation Board of Directors have donated \$18,000 personally, toward their \$20,000 goal to support the building.”

PBCC’s commitment to education in the Glades western communities will expand workforce training, consolidate instructional training and educate the next generation of skilled trades and public service professionals.

For more information or to RSVP, call 561-868-3450 or email [comog@pbcc.edu](mailto:comog@pbcc.edu).



**Palm Beach Community College**, Florida’s first public community college, is celebrating its 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary throughout 2008. The largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, PBCC serves more than 45,000 students annually through its associate degrees, professional certificates, career and customized training and lifelong learning. The College offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.

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**PHOTO CAPTION:** Artist rendering of the Technical Education Center, PBCC at Belle Glade

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