

## **PBSC to spend \$4 million to move forward plans for Loxahatchee Groves campus**

(LAKE WORTH, Fla. – Oct. 10, 2013) The Palm Beach State College District Board of Trustees has voted to spend up to \$4 million for architectural design, infrastructure and site work for the College’s fifth campus in Loxahatchee Groves.

The unanimous decision was among two key items approved by trustees at their regular meeting Tuesday to keep the project moving forward. It puts the College closer to its goal of providing more convenient access to educational services for residents in Loxahatchee Groves, Royal Palm Beach, Wellington, Loxahatchee and The Acreage.

Trustees also approved the educational specifications for the entire first phase of the campus. In addition to architectural design, site paving, drainage and utility infrastructure, the first phase will eventually include a 50,000-square-foot multi-purpose classroom/administration building. Those specifications are required by the state for new construction, remodeling and renovation projects for educational facilities.

“We are committed to completing this project and providing access to the most underserved communities in our service area,” said Dr. Dennis Gallon, Palm Beach State College president. “I’m confident that the residents in Loxahatchee Groves and surrounding communities will be pleased with the convenient educational programs and services this campus will provide.”

Palm Beach State finalized the purchase of 75 acres for the campus last October. The College has received all of the necessary land-use approvals from the Loxahatchee Groves Town Council for the campus that will be located at the northwest corner of Southern Boulevard and B Road. The site includes over 1,000 feet of frontage on Southern Boulevard.

College leaders say the campus in west central Palm Beach County will accommodate the county’s current population and future growth.

“We’re moving forward on this project, and I am excited about that,” said Carolyn Williams, chairwoman of the Board of Trustees.

Plans for the fifth campus are moving forward as planning is underway for several large residential developments in the west central area of the county.

*Serving 48,000 students annually, Palm Beach State College is the largest institution of higher education in Palm Beach County, providing bachelor's degrees, associate degrees, professional certificates, career training and lifelong learning. Established in 1933 as Florida's first public community college, it offers more than 100 programs of study at locations in Lake Worth, Boca Raton, Palm Beach Gardens and Belle Glade.*

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