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**NEWS RELEASE – “ELEMENTARY REZONING MEETINGS ANNOUNCED”**

Dates, times, and locations of three parent meetings, to be focused on a yet-to-be-completed School District of Collier County elementary school rezoning proposal, are being announced. District staff is continuing to work on development of a rezoning proposal necessitated by the failure of Amendment 8 at the polls on November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Three meetings are currently scheduled – each will begin at 6 p.m.

Greater Naples area

- Thursday, January 6<sup>th</sup>, in the Golden Gate High School Auditorium (2925 Titan Lane)
- Monday, January 10<sup>th</sup>, in the Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Administrative Center School Board Meeting Room (5775 Osceola Trail)

Immokalee area:

- Tuesday, January 11<sup>th</sup>, in the Eden Park Elementary School Cafeteria (3650 Westclox Street)

A letter will be sent home to parents in affected schools in mid-December. Rezoning maps will be available on the district Web site ([www.collierschools.com](http://www.collierschools.com)) and in the elementary schools. The rezoning proposal, along with comments and suggestions received during the three parent meetings, will go to the School Board for a first reading on January 18<sup>th</sup>, with the second reading and final decision expected during the February 15<sup>th</sup> School Board Meeting. Zoning changes will go into effect with the start of the 2011-2012 school year. Rezoning will not be necessary at the middle or high school level.

While there are enough classrooms available to meet the Class Size Reduction requirements district-wide, there are individual elementary schools that do not have enough classrooms and others with extra classrooms.

It is projected that the district will need to hire an additional 223 teachers, at a cost of nearly \$16 million, to satisfy next year's class size requirements.