

Sheriff



Hendry County

July 10, 2023

STEVE WHIDDEN, SHERIFF

Special Facilities Construction Committee  
Florida Department of Education  
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1214  
Tallahassee, Florida, 32399

RE: Letter of Support - Hendry County Schools Special Facilities Funding

Dear Sir or Madam:

As the Sheriff of Hendry County, I fully support the Hendry County School District in its request for funding through the Florida Department of Education's Special Facility Construction Account.

As Hendry County is experiencing a tremendous population increase and many of the existing school infrastructures need upgrades, a new high school for LaBelle would provide a safe, state of the art learning environment that will prepare our students of future challenges in their lives. Also, as Hendry County is considered a fiscally constrained county, as such any funds to assist in improving schools within this county are greatly needed. As Sheriff, I see firsthand the increased security risks for our schools as some have aged and are in need repair and upgrade due to deterioration and lack of security measures.

I hope that my full support and of others within Hendry County will lead to the school district ranking first to receive special facilities funds to rebuild the LaBelle High School. This will allow the teachers, administrators, and staff to provide that "safe place" that many of our community children thrive in.

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at 863-674-5600.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "S. Whidden".

Steve Whidden, Sheriff  
Hendry County, Florida

SW/pw



*"Dedicated to promote a desirable quality of life in our community by maintaining and improving peace, order and safety through excellence in law enforcement and community service."*

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