

# School Board agrees to deal

By Matt Reinig | Hernando Today

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**BROOKSVILLE** - The school board approved 4-0 a memorandum of agreement with the Hernando County Board of County Commissioners, which provides funding for a portion of the educational impact fee study in the amount of \$12,500.

Among the approving votes was board chairman Matt Foreman, who cast the only vote opposing the study in February.

“I’ve stated before I opposed the education impact fee, but if we’re going to be deciding between the county commission paying the (\$12,500) or the school district, I’ll be with you on this one,” Foreman said. “That was extremely painful for me.”

Board member Dianne Bonfield was unable to attend Tuesday’s meeting.

The Hernando County School Board voted 4-1 in early February to approve the fee study costing \$38,899, and during a preceding workshop the board allowed School Superintendent Bryan Blavatt the discretion to reinstate the \$38,899 bid, which had been previously removed from a school board meeting agenda in January.

The impact fee study includes a \$15,000 enhanced analysis that would update certain 2005 land value data currently used by the district and would also assist the district in evaluating other projected sources of revenue.

School Board member Gus Guadagnino previously opposed the impact fee study because he thought it would be right for Realtors to foot the bill. In consideration of the lower bid, and the long-term revenue projections the district could gather through the enhanced analysis, he says he now supports the measure.

“Whole hog,” he said.

Director of Facilities Roland Bavota, who drafted and submitted the bid item for a January school board meeting that was later pulled, said in February he believed there was enough to pay for the unbudgeted study.

“If there’s not,” board member Cynthia Moore said, “I’d be glad to offer up part of my salary.”