



In response to a neighbor's concerns over possible flooding along Rivendell Boulevard, Board Member Cathy Daignault contacted Pine View School. The following response came from Paul Pitcher, Acting Director, Construction Services Department, Sarasota County Schools:

On Jun 26, 2020, at 8:43 AM,
Pitcher Paul <Paul.Pitcher@sarasotacountyschools.net> wrote:

Good morning Everyone,

Thanks for your email listing some concerns about the Pine View Project. As you know we are just getting started so I'll address your concerns that you listed and explain some additional items as we move forward. The standing water you saw was from the approx. 10" of rain that occurred over a two day period last week. The area in which the water was accumulating is part of what is considered Flood Plain. It is doing what it is intended to do, essentially hold water until it can dissipate or perc into the ground. On some of our campuses, we call this dry retention as it remains dry for the majority of the year and is available to collect heavy rains which occur at only certain times of the year.

As part of our permit from Southwest Florida Water Management District, we will be enhancing the area around the new building and to the north to create more flood plain (called flood plain compensation) because of the new building. Some of this enhanced area will be done at the beginning of the project and won't fully be completed (final graded and sod/seeded) until the project is complete. As the temporary road goes in, we will be installing under road drainage in certain areas to allow for water to flow and to utilize area, not only on the path side of the temporary road but on the school side of the temporary road to collect water after storms. We will monitor water levels on both sides to insure we are minimizing any impact to surrounding areas. As a side note, there is a BMP (Best Management Practices) Plan that includes silt fence installation and other controls to manage the construction site impact. We will also be installed construction fencing with wind/view screen around the perimeter of our jobsite to not only create a physical barrier but a visual barrier as well.

As for the pumping of the water into the culvert, as part of the SWFWMD Permit, we have to create added capacity to our existing pond (enlarge the pond area) and also construct extra littoral area to compensate for the new building construction. In order to do this, we have to drop the pond level so we can gain the appropriate access to perform this work. We have a very experienced Construction Management Team (Tandem Construction) working on this project that will be onsite full time during the construction time period. My direction to the Team is that it is of utmost importance to limit the impact that the construction will have on students and staff when they get back to campus and in this case, as we will be in very close proximity to our surrounding neighbors, minimize the impact to the surrounding community. The School Board will have a Project Manager from the District assigned to this project and the expectation is that he is walking the jobsite on a daily basis to insure everything is moving in the right direction. With that said, the Team that will be working on the construction will be aware of your concerns and will certainly monitor the site for standing water and water flows when the heavy rains hit.

Please feel free to forward any additional concerns that may arise during the project through Dr. Covert. We will be working on ways to provide updates as we move through the construction to keep folks informed of the progress. I cannot guarantee that there won't be any glitches in our plan, I can only guarantee we will aggressively respond to concerns that may arise and do our best to implement countermeasures to resolve those concerns. Thanks again for your interest in our project. Take care, be safe and enjoy your weekend.

Regards,

Paul Pitcher, Acting Director
Construction Services Department
Sarasota County Schools
7895 Fruitville Road, Sarasota, FL 34240
Phone: (941)361-6680 Fax: (941)361-6684 Cell: (941)809-0278
Email: Paul.Pitcher@sarasotacountyschools.net
Web Page: <http://www.sarasota.k12.fl.us/construction>

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