

SMYRNA SCHOOL DISTRICT

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The Smyrna School District Board of Education would like to inform our families, staff, and the community that effective immediately we will no longer receive impact fees from the Town of Smyrna. We are disappointed with the outcome of this decision, we understand the Smyrna Town Council had no choice but to take this action. It has been determined that the Town did not have the legal authority to continue collecting impact fees, on new development, on behalf of the District. We want to thank the Mayor and Town Council for going above and beyond in an effort to ensure that there was no other immediate option. They are, and have been, supporters of the Smyrna School District and continue to want what is best for the students we serve. We look forward to working together to develop and achieve a successful plan in the near future.

It is discouraging that developers will no longer be paying for the true impact new construction has on the District thus shifting untold millions of dollars onto the taxpayers. The District's financial ability to keep pace with growth can be difficult when our constituents are asked to choose between keeping the lights on and supporting the District, no matter how much they may want to. We were encouraged to hear legal counsel, for the Home Builders Association and individual home builders, go on record, at the Town Council meeting July 21, stating they want to pay an appropriately enacted school impact fees for new construction. Their legal counsel also stated that they are available to work with the District and we welcome their help and financial support.

We know that this is a setback that no one wanted but we are confident and vow to work together to find other solutions. Our students and community deserve no less than us fighting for every possible benefit we can provide. We are all Smyrna Strong.

Sincerely, Smyrna School District Board of Education