



DiFONTE CONSULTING, INC.

ENGINEERS in CIVIL, INFRASTRUCTURE, TRANSPORTATION and LAND DEVELOPMENT



Galaxy Elementary School

Owner: School District of Palm Beach County

Client: Zyscovich, Inc.

Services: Site Planning
Engineering
Permitting
LEED Civil Processing
Construction Observations

Project Description:

Our firm, together with the Project Team, secured the one of the first LEED Platinum Rating for a public school campus in the USA. The project has received state and national awards for its innovative approach in school design including the Florida School of the Year Award. This school focuses on engineering, environment and energy. It engages its students to learn about basic “real world” engineering applications, becoming champions of environmental sustainability and stewards of energy resources. As the civil engineer for the project, we planned, designed, permitted and observed the construction of the \$24 million campus. In addition, the project entailed relocating a city park with tennis courts, children playground and softball field.

From a civil perspective, the project is constructed on a coastal ridge. We contoured the site topography to be in harmony with its surrounding area including two major highways, an environmental preserve and a residential neighborhood. We harvested the roof rainwater to irrigate portions of the campus and provided “bio-swales” to educate the public regarding rainwater collection and distribution. We utilized recycled materials for construction of the pavement system for the parking lots, drives and playfields.

Contract documents were prepared to serve the school campus and the adjacent Galaxy Park including access drives, parking areas, play fields, water system, sanitary sewer system and drainage system.

Extensive coordination and permitting was required from key regulatory agencies including: the FDOT, SFWMD, City of Boynton Beach Engineering, PBC Traffic Engineering, City of Boynton Beach Fire Rescue, City of Boynton Beach Utilities Department and Palm Beach County Health Department.