

MINUTES

**Florida Atlantic University Schools Advisory Body
Wednesday, October 14, 2009
5:30pm – 7:10 pm
A.D. Henderson University School Media Center
College of Education, Florida Atlantic University**

I. Call to Order/ Approval of Agenda

Call to order made by Dr. Patricia Hodge at 5:30 pm.

Motion – Motion by Ms. Gina Dunne to approve the Agenda

Second – Seconded by Ms. Daphne Smolka

Unanimous Approval

II. Welcome

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair

Dr. Hodge welcomed all the members of the Advisory Body. Members who were present:

Ms. Kris Moser – At-Large Secondary Parent Representative

Dr. Patricia Hodge – Principal/Director, Interim Chair

Dr. Deborah Shepherd – College of Education, Dean’s Office Representative

Ms. Robin Barkes – Elementary Faculty Representative

Ms. Tracie Nieporte –Elementary Parent Representative

Ms. Gina Dunne – Staff Representative

Mr. Marc Hopin – Secondary Parent Representative

Mr. Tom Ievoli – Secondary Faculty Representative

Ms. Daphne Smolka – At-Large Elementary Parent Representative

Ms. Cynthia Morani - Business/Community Citizen

Mr. Uttam Thakore – Student Representative

Members who were not present:

Mr. Wayne Barton – Business/Community Citizen

Dr. Barbara Ridener – FAU Faculty Member

Mr. Fred Platt – Business/Community Citizen

Others Present:

Mr. Glenn Thomas – Assistant Dean, Pk-12 Schools and Educational Programs

Ms. Kristina Cornwell – Recording Secretary

Ms. Terry Clark – Speech-Language Pathologist

Mr. Keith Feit – Middle School Science Teacher

Ms. Agnes Nemeth – Middle School/High School Math

Ms. Elaine Sattler – Art Teacher

Ms. Rachel Fishbach – Kindergarten Teacher

Ms. Lacey Chimienti – 1st Grade Teacher

Ms. Terri Watson – Middle School/ High School Language Arts Teacher

Ms. Ashley Russell – ESE Teacher
Ms. Gina Sands – 6th Grade Teacher
Ms. Toni Francis – Parent
Ms. Lisa Foxman – Parent
Ms. Nataly Gimenez - Parent

III. Approval of Minutes

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair

Ms. Kris Moser clarified the promotional packets are not yet being constructed. The comment was a request to begin tours and create promotional packets for new people. Ms. Cynthia Morani noted a few grammatical errors.

Motion – Motion made by Mr. Tom Ievoli to approve the September 9th minutes as amended

Second – Seconded by Dr. Deborah Shepherd

Unanimous Approval

IV. Recognitions and Awards

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair

1. Dr. Patricia Hodge recognized the two national merit semifinalists, Uttam Thakore and Danielle Howard
2. Dr. Patricia Hodge thanked Ms. Gina Sands and Ms. Randi Boike on behalf of the Advisory Body for their contributions of service on the previous Advisory Body.
3. Dr. Shepherd recommended the minutes indicate recognition of the previous Advisory Body members and that an honorary plaque be given.
4. Mr. Uttam Thakore, interim president for FAU High gave a brief introduction.

V. Principal / Director's Report

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Principal/Director

None

A. PTO Report

Ms. Kris Moser, Parent Representative

1. Ms. Moser advised the Advisory Body the parents are beginning to take responsibilities to build continuity and showing enthusiasm for future projects.
2. The first fundraiser was not as profitable, but was expected due to tough financial circumstances.
3. There is currently a collection of empty Capri Sun packets to be contributed to the Mission Green project.
4. The student awareness program BUGS (bringing up grades) was presented to administration for consideration.
5. Parents have also made requests to have a slideshow presentation of upcoming events to be shown in the cafeteria during lunch time, a video stream link for the School Advisory Body meetings, and school tour set up. They have also requested the Passport to Peace speaker be at the November 18th PTO general meeting.
6. The parents voiced questions regarding the website updates, middle school and high school Friday folders, Pinnacle and the 8th grade Spanish class credits for high school.

VIII. Action Items

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair

The Advisory Body reviewed the Admission Policy. Dr. Hodge requested an amendment to the policy to reflect an end date for the lottery as February 1st. Mr. Hopin suggested a few grammatical changes.

Motion – Motion made by Mr. Tom Ievoli to accept the Admissions Policy as amended

Second – Seconded by Ms. Cynthia Morani

Unanimous Approval

The Advisory Body members reviewed the Wellness Policy. Annual review of the policy is required by the state.

Motion – Motion made by Mr. Tom Ievoli to accept the Wellness Policy

Second – Seconded by Ms. Gina Dunne

Unanimous Approval

The Advisory Body reviewed the School Improvement Plan (SIP). There was discussion on the process of creating the document in the future.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Cynthia Morani to approve as written

Second – Seconded by Ms. Robin Barkes

Mr. Hopin commented on SIP process. He also referenced other SIP plans including Palm Pointe Educational Research School and the level of detail. Dr. Hodge explained the Advisory Body had adequate time to review the SIP and gave a chronology of how the SIP was prepared. She also explained the current SIP was formed using the same format that has been used for the past six years.

Opposed – Ms. Kris Moser, Ms. Tracie Nieporte and Mr. Marc Hopin

Approve – Ms. Gina Dunne, Ms. Robin Barkes, Ms. Cynthia Morani, Dr. Patricia Hodge, Ms. Daphne Smolka, Mr. Tom Ievoli, Dr. Deborah Shepherd and Mr. Uttam Thakore

Motion Passes

A vote for the election of officers was conducted. Dr. Hodge gave a brief description of the positions as stated in the FAUS bylaws.

Nominations for Chair – Ms. Nieporte and Ms. Smolka nominated Mr. Hopin as chair.

Mr. Tom Ievoli and Ms. Gina Dunne nominated Ms. Cynthia Morani as chair.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Gina Dunne to close the Chair nominations

Second – Seconded by Ms. Daphne Smolka

Unanimous Approval

Each candidate gave a brief speech of acceptance and stated how they could best fill the position.

Ms. Smolka, Ms. Nieporte, Ms. Moser and Mr. Hopin voted for Mr. Marc Hopin to fill the chair position.

Ms. Dunne, Ms. Morani, Dr. Shepherd, Ms. Barkes, Mr. Ievoli, Dr. Hodge and Mr. Thakore voted for Ms. Cynthia Morani to fill the chair position.

Ms. Cynthia Morani will accede the chair position.

Nominations for Vice Chair – Ms. Dunne nominated Ms. Barkes as vice chair, Ms. Barkes accepted. Ms. Nieporte nominated Mr. Hopin, Mr. Hopin declined. Mr. Hopin nominated Ms. Nieporte, Ms. Nieporte declined. Ms. Nieporte nominated Ms. Smolka, Ms. Smolka accepted.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Gina Dunne to close the Vice Chair nominations

Second – Seconded by Ms. Cynthia Morani

Unanimous Approval

Each candidate gave a brief speech of acceptance and stated how they could best fill the position.

Ms. Nieporte, Dr. Shepherd, Mr. Hopin, Dr. Hodge and Ms. Moser voted for Ms. Daphne Smolka to fill the vice chair position.

Ms. Dunne, Ms. Morani, Ms. Barkes, Mr. Ievoli, Mr. Thakore voted for Ms. Robin Barkes to fill the vice chair position.

Ms. Daphne Smolka will accede the vice chair position.

Nominations for Secretary – Ms. Morani nominated Mr. Ievoli, Mr. Ievoli accepted. Ms. Smolka nominated Mr. Hopin, Mr. Hopin declined.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Gina Dunne to close the Secretary nominations

Second – Seconded by Ms. Robin Barkes

Unanimous Approval

Mr. Ievoli gave a brief speech of acceptance and stated how he could best fill the position.

All Advisory Body members agreed to Mr. Ievoli taking the Secretary position.

Nominations for Treasurer – Ms. Smolka and Ms. Dunne nominated Mr. Hopin, Mr. Hopin accepted.

Motion – Motion made by Ms. Daphne Smolka to close the Treasurer nominations

Second – Seconded by Ms. Gina Dunne

Unanimous Approval

All Advisory Body members agreed to Mr. Marc Hopin taking the Treasurer position.

IX. Discussion Items

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair Education Committee – Dr. Hodge informed the Advisory Body of the current process to hire an information technology professional. Their first assignment will be to work on the Pinnacle system. Dr. Hodge gave a brief report on the committee meeting from October 7th.

Finance Committee – Dr. Hodge gave a brief report on the budgets discussed at the meeting on October 7th. The next finance committee on October 28th will discuss the new projected budget.

Personnel Committee – The Advisory Body process for evaluating the principal/director was tabled until the October 28th meeting.

X. Old Business Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair
None

XI. Public Comment Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair
Ms. Terry Watson previously submitted a request to speak to the Advisory Body.

Ms. Watson gave a brief introduction of herself. She stated the negative comments made by the public regarding school issues are disheartening. She stated her concern for the negative tone expressed by members of the Advisory Body.

Ms. Nataly Gimenez previously submitted a request to speak to the Advisory Body.

Ms. Gimenez addressed the Advisory Body on concerns regarding bullying. She gave a personal example of a bullying incident regarding her son. Dr. Hodge gave a brief overview on the procedure from the Bullying Policy and initiatives currently being implemented in the school.

XII. Announcement, Communications and Comments Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair
Mr. Hopin suggested the Advisory Body reconvene for a Special Meeting to vote on the School Recognition Funds. The meeting will be held prior to the scheduled committee meeting on October 28th.
Motion – Motion made by Mr. Marc Hopin to hold a special meeting
Second – Seconded by Ms. Cynthia Morani
Unanimous Approval

XIII. Adjournment Dr. Patricia Hodge, Interim Chair
Meeting adjourned by Dr. Hodge at 7:10 pm