

MINUTES

Florida Atlantic University Schools Advisory Board
Wednesday, February 6, 2008
5:05 PM –7:35 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. Barbara Ridener at 5:05 PM.

II. Welcome Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Present: Dr. Barbara Ridener, Mr. Jerry Alfano, Ms. Maria Gordillo, Ms. Gina Sands, Dr. Deborah Shepherd, Mr. Glenn Thomas, Mr. Alex Nachlas, Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy, Dr. David Perry, and Dean Aloia.

Guests: Dr. Marla Brady, Mr. Marc Hopin, Mr. Hank Ayotte, Ms. Christy Kian, Ms. Kristine Moser, and a few other parents.

III. Approval of Agenda Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Dr. Ridener stated an addition to the agenda of Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy to discuss updates on the ESE policies and procedures plan under section VIII was needed.

Ms. Maria Gordillo made a motion to add Mr. Fred Platt to the agenda under public comment if time permitted.

Motion – Motion by Ms. Gina Sands to approve the Agenda as amended for February 6, 2008.

Second – seconded by Dr. Ramasamy

Unanimous Approval

IV. Approval of Minutes Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Dr. Deborah Shepherd and Ms. Gina Sands noted a few grammatical errors for correction.

Motion – Motion by Ms. Maria Gordillo amend the minutes with typographical corrections.

Second – seconded by Ms. Gina Sands

Unanimous Approval

V. Recognitions and Awards Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

None.

VI. SAC Report

Dr. Marla Brady, Principal

There was no SAC report.

VII. Director's Report

Mr. Glenn Thomas, Director

Mr. Glenn Thomas reviewed the 2006-2007 Annual Report for A.D. Henderson University School and FAU High. Mr. Thomas stated the level of display and records have been in place for the last 5 years. He informed the Board that the addition of 1600 students in the new FAUS-Treasure Coast University Schools, Inc. in Tradition will add more complexity to these reports.

VIII. Action Items

Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Dr. Deborah Shepherd was nominated for the election of Vice Chair.

Motion – Motion by Ms. Maria Gordillo to nominate Dr. Shepherd.

Seconded – seconded by Ms. Gina Sands.

Unanimous Approval

Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy announced the Florida Department of Education needs Mr. Glenn Thomas' signature on the State amended ESE Policy and Procedure Plan to approve the new template pages for the new compliance document.

Motion – Motion by Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy to approve the signature.

Seconded – Seconded by Mr. Jerry Alfano.

Unanimous Approval

IX. Discussion Items

Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Finance Committee – Mr. Jerry Alfano informed the Board the Finance Committee is still working on the Budget and Activity Fees. Currently there is no update.

Personnel Committee – Dr. Ridener informed the Board the Director's Evaluations had been completed and the overall findings were very good.

The Board discussed the open position for a new member and details of the process. Some questions about replacement, the timeline, and announcement of the position were brought up. Dean Aloia recommended taking the discussion of the Board position back to the Committee meetings.

Mr. Jerry Alfano discussed there were a few emails sent to Dean Aloia recommending Mr. Marc Hopin be nominated as the new Board member. Mr. Alfano read the portion of Mr. Hopin's résumé which related to Henderson at the meeting.

Motion – Motion by Mr. Jerry Alfano to send a nomination for Mr. Marc Hopin to President Frank Brogan.

Seconded – Seconded by Mr. Alex Nachlas.

Dr. Deborah Shepherd stated this nomination would not be fair to other parents who might be interested in the position. Dean Aloia mentioned he also received emails from other parents that were interested in the position.

7 Opposed 2 Approve

Motion not passed.

X. Old Business

Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Dr. Ridener handed out and reviewed the policy regarding minutes before the vote to approve the November 7, 2007 minutes.

Motion – Motion by Ms. Maria Gordillo to approve the November 7th minutes.

Seconded – Seconded by Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy.

Motion – Motion by Mr. Jerry Alfano to amend the public comment section of the minutes regarding Mr. Marc Hopin comments to include a prepared summary that he read to the Board.

Seconded – Seconded by Dr. David Perry.

Approval of amended November 7, 2007 Minutes.

4 opposed 5 approve

Amendment passes.

Approval of minutes as amended.

4 opposed 5 approve

Minutes approved as amended.

SAC Motion – Dr. Ridener read motions from Mr. Marc Hopin on behalf of the SAC. Dr. Ridener asked Mr. Thomas to explain to the Board how the requests from the motions had been addressed. Mr. Thomas provided the Board with quarterly budget forms provided to SAC on October 8, 2007 and on January 15, 2008 and a packet providing copies of budget reports included in each of the Annual Reports since the 2002-03 school year. He stated that these forms were formatted in collaboration with Mr. Hopin in 2002 as a balance between level of significant expenditure detail and family information needs. The forms and graphs have consistently reported the same budget information for the past four years; the format and process needs to remain consistent for purposes of comparability and verification with university records. Mr. Thomas stated that FAUS is another part of the university, not a separate entity; therefore FAUS's fiscal procedures, auditable records, purchasing, payroll, processing and oversight

are prescribed by and audited through the university's, state's and federal standards, policies and procedures. Mr. Thomas stated he will continue to provide the same kinds of information in formats approved by the board that are consistent with past Annual Reports, unless the Board desires to modify them.

SAC Survey – Dr. Ridener gave background information on the SAC survey that caused the survey to be an item of concern. The concern was brought to the attention of Mr. Thomas. Mr. Thomas, in turn, took the concern to Dean Aloia as the Dean of the academic unit that A.D. Henderson is a part of. The Dean secured evaluators to conduct an independent evaluation of the survey results. Dr. Ridener shared the results of the evaluation and a re-analysis of the survey with the Board. Complete information is available in attached documents.

Dean Aloia stated this particular survey did not reflect the standards of a university lab school.

XI. Public Comment

Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Mr. Hank Ayotte stated that he was not trying to change the decision of the Board, but he felt that the Board should appoint Mr. Marc Hopin as a member.

Mr. Marc Hopin highlighted his need for further explanation of the activity expenditures and revenues.

Ms. Christy Kian expressed her support for Mr. Hopin to be added to the Board.

Ms. Kristina Moser supported nominating Mr. Hopin to the Board for financial clarification.

XII. Announcement, Communications and School Board Comments

Dean Aloia expressed his concern of how teachers are being perceived by a few parents. He explained the lab school has very thorough mechanisms and procedures regarding teacher evaluations.

Mr. Glenn Thomas affirmed it is not appropriate for parents/guardians to circulate to other parents /guardians sharing the same class negative emails, polls or comments intended to undermine a teacher and his/her creditability and/or ability to teach those students in his/her class(es) particularly as this may also affect the confidentiality that ethically exists between individual families and children and that child's teacher. He stated the dispute resolution policy is in place to provide families a means and process to resolve individual child concerns with an appropriate individual educator. Teachers have many options and so have a choice of whether or not to teach at ADHUS just like families have a choice to attend or not; we all need to find the best ways to appropriately communicate and support each other as a school community for the benefit of all our children.

Dr. Ridener asked Dr. Marla Brady for an update on the progress on the parental concerns list that the board has been monitoring over the past few months.

Dr. Brady handed out a progress report and provided an explanation of the remaining uncompleted items.

Committee and Workshop minutes approval – Dr. Ridener announced she has contacted the General Counsel’s Office on three separate occasions by e-mail and is awaiting a response.

XIII. Adjournment

Dr. Barbara Ridener, Chairperson

Motion – Motion by Ms. Maria Gordillo to adjourn the meeting.

Seconded - Seconded by Mr. Jerry Alfano

Meeting was adjourned by Dr. Barbara Ridener at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Kristina Cornwell