

A. D. Henderson University School Advisory Board Meeting
College of Education, Florida Atlantic University
May 20, 2004
Minutes

I. Call to Order

Mr. Fred Platt called the meeting to order at 5:00 PM.

II. Welcome

Mr. Platt welcomed everyone and acknowledged the new Board members. He read a letter of resignation from Dr. Richard Knee who is retiring effective July 1, 2004.

Present were: Mr. Fred Platt, Ms. Hope Atwell, Dr. Rangasamy Ramasamy, Mr. Jerry Alfano, Dr. Barbara Ridener, Dr. David Perry, Dr. Deborah Shepherd, Mr. Glenn Thomas (Ex-Officio), and Dr. Marla Lee (Ex-Officio.)

III. Introduction of new Board Members

Self-introductions were made. New members include Dr. David Perry, Professor of Psychology, Drs. Barbara Ridener and Deborah Shepherd of the College of Education, and Mr. Jerry Alfano, parent of two Henderson students.

IV. Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes of the April 19, 2004 meeting with the correction of a typo in the date in Item Vb. was made by Dr. Ramasamy and seconded by Ms. Atwell. Unanimously approved

V. Awards and Recognitions

None

VI. Director's Report

a. High School Initiative, Status – Mr. Thomas advised that approximately 124 applications were received and it is estimated that about one-third of the applicants will advance into the program. Student candidates are currently being interviewed. Albert Colom, FAU Admissions Director, and the Associate Deans of the Colleges of Science, Engineering, and Arts and Letters are also involved. Acceptance letters will be sent Saturday and Monday. Follow-up phone calls will also be made. Scheduling will begin during the following week. There will be 25 or 26 students in the ninth grade and the remainder of the selected 42 to 45 students will be spread throughout the tenth, eleventh, and twelfth grades.

b. Facility Expansion, Status – It is expected that we will have portables through December. The new building is supposed to be ready by the first of November. Dr. Ramasamy asked who will pay for the portables and about how much would they cost. Mr. Thomas answered that they will be paid for with ADHUS PECO funds and the estimated cost is 120-140K.

c. Collective Bargaining, Status – FAU and the UFF have reached agreement. Mr. Thomas will provide copies of the agreement to the Board members when available.

VII. Action Items

Approval of the 2004-05 Code of Student Conduct – Dr. Ramasamy advised that there is still one issue to be resolved: Should students receive credit for work completed while in suspension? Dr. Lee's input was requested on the issue. She advised that the student has access to the work by law. Whether credit was given has been left to the discretion of the teacher. This puts the teacher in a

difficult position. Discussion followed. Is the current wording adequate? Is a suspension a vacation for the student? Some penalty should be imposed – decrease in letter grade or deduction of a percentage based on number of days of suspension. What is the reason for the suspension? If the suspension is in regard to a non-academic matter, should the student’s work while in suspension be affected? What if a final exam grade is at stake? It was agreed that some penalty should be imposed. Are teachers looking to the Board to decide on the penalty to be imposed? They would no longer be pitted against each other and would see it as a show of support. Mr. Thomas suggested some re-wording of the section. Mr. Platt suggested that the item be moved for further discussion. Mr. Thomas will Email suggested wording to the Board members. The Education Committee will review and present their recommendation. Mr. Platt called for a motion to move the item from action item to discussion item. Motion by Dr. Ramasamy, seconded by Mr. Alfano. Unanimously approved.

VIII. Discussion Items

a. Budget Workshop – Mr. Platt proposed that information regarding committee responsibilities be sent to the new Board members. Mr. Alfano volunteered to be a member of the Finance Committee. Mr. Platt will attend the workshop. Mr. Thomas will coordinate a meeting date and establish a process.

b. Building Use Policy – Mr. Thomas advised that a draft has been completed. It needs to go to the Finance Committee.

c. High School Plan Workshop – The committee will met again in July/August.

d. 2004-05 Pupil Progression Plan – Dr. Ramasamy reported that the Education Committee met and reviewed the plan. He asked all Board members to review it so it can be moved to an action item at the June meeting. Mr. Platt requested that the previous version of the plan be made available to the new Board members. Dr. Ramasamy advised that the Committee will meet again and finalize the plan.

e. Research Initiatives – Dr. Ridener, one of the new Board members, is also a member of the ADHUS Research Committee. This will facilitate the flow of communication between the committee and the Board. Mr. Thomas suggested that Dr. Lee always be a working, non-voting member of that committee.

f. Board By-laws Revisited – Mr. Thomas advised that we are still waiting for the new agreement before proceeding with any proposed changes. The By-laws Revision Committee will include Mr. Platt, Mr. Alfano, and Dr. Shepherd. Mr. Thomas will coordinate with Mr. Platt to set up a meeting date.

IX. Public Comment

Ann Siwiak commented on teacher retention at ADHUS as the ADHUS UFF Representative. Her remarks included the topics of the school work day, duty-free lunch, salaries, and teacher survey results. Mr. Platt asked Mr. Thomas if the Board determines salaries. Mr. Thomas responded that per the collective bargaining agreement, the Dean or his designee in consultation with the UFF rep develops a salary schedule. Mr. Thomas added that the Board can make recommendations regarding salaries.

X. Announcements, Communications and School Board Comments

Special Board Meeting - There will be a Board meeting on Tuesday, June 22, 2004.

XI. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 PM.