

# Florida Atlantic University Schools Parent Guide

2012-2013

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## DISTRICT SCHOOLS

### **Alexander D. Henderson University School & Palm Point Education Research School at Tradition**

The Alexander D. Henderson University School (ADHUS) is an elementary-middle school (K-8) and was legislated school district number 72, developmental research school, effective July 1, 1991. ADHUS is a public school under the auspices of the State University System. ADHUS holds departmental status in the College of Education at Florida Atlantic University with the Director serving as a member of the College Executive Committee. The Dean of the College of Education is the designated Superintendent. As a demonstration site, the school is a partner in the teacher education process of the College of Education, providing an ideal setting for the observation of current instructional style and strategies. In addition, service to practitioners in the field is provided through professional visitations, workshops, demonstrations, and teaching tapes. The school is a site for statewide, in-service clinical educator training. Faculty members also serve as instructors in the College of Education (FAU), The Schmidt College of Arts and Humanities (FAU), and Palm Beach Community College.

The school has a three-fold mission of (1) being a demonstration site for teacher education; (2) developing curricula; (3) conducting research (F.S. 228.053).

This mission is shared by the Palm Point Educational Research School at Tradition. As a FAU/SLCSD demonstration site, the school also partners in the teacher education process of the College of Education. These schools serve as locations for pre-student teaching experiences of undergraduate elementary and secondary education students

The standard academic subjects, foreign language, physical education, and selected areas of the humanities, comprise ongoing curriculum development activities. ADHUS and Palm Point serve as a research site for the colleges and departments in the University, the public schools, and the private sector as well as generating school-wide action research projects. Current research and grant projects are funded through the University, the Florida Department of Education, and private/public foundations.

All three parts of the mission are based on a keystone - educating ADHUS students to reach their full potential.

### **FAU High School**

Florida Atlantic University High School (FAU HS) is a dual enrollment high school on the campus of A.D. Henderson and Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton. Like ADHUS, FAU High is a public school under the auspices of the State University System. They have been rated an "A" school since 2004.

FAU High School is unique in the way that students spend their 9th grade year in a typical high school classroom setting, taking advanced coursework. This prepares them for Grades 10-12 where all classes are collegiate classes taken at the University for both high school and college credit. Typically, when students graduate from FAU HS, they have also earned three years' worth of college credits. Some have even received their Bachelor Degree!

## DISTRICT CONTACTS

Valerie Bristor	Superintendent	<a href="mailto:bristor@fau.edu">bristor@fau.edu</a>
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## ENROLLMENT

### Medical Examinations - Immunization Record

All students are required to have a completed medical examination form that includes proof of immunization for diphtheria, DPT, poliomyelitis (polio), measles, mumps and rubella (MMR). The proper forms are furnished to physicians and are not distributed to schools. Any student without a valid certificate of immunization or a Health Examination, if required, will be temporarily excluded from attendance until such certification is provided. If the parent or guardian of the child objects to immunization for religious reasons, a Religious Exemption Certificate (HRS Form 681) is to be presented. Those who are medically exempt may enroll after presenting a Temporary or Permanent Medical Exemption (HRS 680 Part B or C). Please check with your doctor for the proper forms and a complete list of the required immunizations. Students without proper documentation of required immunization or medical/ religious exemption will not be allowed to enroll in school.

**Please note:** New kindergarten students are required to have the chicken pox vaccine before they can enroll in school.

### A. D. Henderson Enrollment

Admission to ADHUS school is based on a lottery system. If your child will be at least 5 years old by September 1st of the next school year, you may apply for the lottery. The Lottery Application is open from September 1st through February 1st. for admission the following school year. Please click on the Application link on the school's website (<http://adhus.fau.edu>) to access the application during this time period. If you wish to learn more about the Admissions Policy, you can click on that link as well. Notification letters will go out sometime in April for new Kindergarten students. Letters will go out after April for older students as spaces become available.

### FAU High Enrollment

Based on a targeted selection model, students in Palm Beach and surrounding counties are invited to attend FAU High School after a successful interview with members of Steering Committee, composed of University administrators and lead faculty. The committee is charged to evaluate applicants based on the following criteria: academic achievement, standardized test results, writing samples, social maturity, and letters of recommendation. Once accepted, students must demonstrate continuing intellectual curiosity, intrinsic motivation, and persistent interest in mathematics, sciences, engineering, liberal and performing arts, and the medical field.

FAU High School provides students with challenging formal and community-based learning experiences to ensure graduates are college and/or graduate school ready. Upon completion of the 9th grade, students must pass the College Placement Test. Students in grades 9 and 10 are required to take the PSAT. Students in grades 11 and 12 are encouraged to take the ACT and/or SAT once or twice each academic year. FAU High School requires and provides for one administration of the ACT and SAT per year for each student in grades 11 and 12 and for a maximum of two Advanced Placement exams per year for each student in grades 10 – 12.

## FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS' PARENT CHECKLIST

As a parent, your highest priority is your child. This parent self-assessment checklist is designed to help you, as a parent, assess your level of parental involvement in your child's education. After completing the checklist, you may want to note the areas in which you would like to become more involved.

### Academics

- I am aware of my child's current levels of functioning within the school in his/her academic classes, and I provide extra assistance to my child if they are functioning below grade level, especially if he/she is deficient in the area of reading.
- I encourage my child to read on a daily basis and provide family activities for reading together.
- I support reading outside of the home by taking my child to the public library frequently.
- I check my child's book bag and school planner daily to review papers, projects, and assignments.
- I make sure all of my child's homework is completed accurately, and that he/she has a consistent time and study area that is quiet and conducive to learning.
- I review my child's work to stay aware of what my child is learning.
- I make sure my child attends school daily and promptly with all his/her basic needs met, including the provision of nutritious meals and enforcing positive sleep habits.
- I spend quality time with my child by talking with my child about his/her school experiences every day without technological distractions.
- I praise my child for his/her positive behavior, accomplishments, efforts, and good grades.

### Citizenship

- I teach, model, reinforce, and expect appropriate social skills from my child.
- I teach my child to praise others for appropriate behaviors, goal accomplishments, and good deeds.
- I model positive work ethics to my child and stress the importance of doing the best job he/she can do in school, in the community, and in the work place.
- I have read the Student Code of Conduct with my child and emphasize the importance of accepting responsibility if he/she decides not to comply with the school's rules.
- I review the state and local laws with my child that he/she must abide to outside of the school environment.
- I talk to my child regularly about bullying and violence and the effect it has upon others in school, in his/her home, and in his/her community.
- I encourage my child to become involved in extracurricular, volunteer, and after-school activities; and I explain the importance of maintaining a good balance between work, helping others, and social/recreational time.
- I teach and model to my child positive character traits such as trustworthiness, respect, honesty, integrity, fairness, caring, diligence, courage, and citizenship.

### Goal Setting

- I let my child know that school is important. Therefore, I stress the importance of setting lifelong learning goals to my child, and I guide him/her in writing daily, short term, midterm, and long terms goals for his/her educational success.
- I help my child make a plan for achieving his/her learning goals, and then I monitor his/her progress.
- I have high expectations of my child in academics, and I stress the importance of setting study goals so that he/she can be successful in school.
- In addition to lifelong learning goals, I assist my child in setting career, financial, family, social, and health goals to help my child pave a road to a successful like after graduation from high school.
- I guide my child through the process of creating self-goals in the areas of alcohol, tobacco and drug abuse.

### Communication between School and the Home

- I attend workshops and trainings on how to help my child at home and in school.
- I attend Open House, awards ceremonies, promotion ceremonies, school performances, Parent/Teacher Conferences, and IEP meetings (if applicable), and I make a point of getting to know my child's teachers, guidance counselor, and school Principal.
- I volunteer to help with school activities and initiatives, or I volunteer to work in the school to provide assistance to the teachers.
- I belong to a parent organization within my child's school.
- I communicate with my child's teacher in person, by phone, by email, or through written communication.
- I read everything that is sent home from school or posted on the school's webpage including the Parents and Student Handbook, Student Code of Conduct, classroom rules, report cards, progress reports, homework assignments, permission slips, parental letters from the Principal and/or teacher, emergency medical forms, school lunch plans, library past-due notices, and vacation schedules to show my child that I am well informed about his/her school.
- I talk to my child about current health issues occurring within the schools that have been communicated to me by the school and the local health department, helping my child understand the importance of eliminating disease transmittal (including STD's, HIV, Meningococcal, DTaP, Hep B, IPV, MMR, Tdap, Varicella, Influenza, Head Lice and HPV) by following all health department's recommendations for safety, prevention, and/or vaccinations.
- I am an advocate for my child's education; therefore, I am aware of my Parents' Rights within my child's school district, as well as my rights on the state and federal levels.

As a parent, I want to get more involved in the following areas: \_\_\_\_\_

## FLORIDA ATLANTIC UNIVERSITY SCHOOLS' PARENT CHECKLIST

The FAUS PTO is a very involved group of people. Volunteering as part of the PTO is one of the best ways to support your school, your teacher and your child! The PTO has events occurring all year long. Some are fundraisers and some are social gatherings. For a small school, we do a lot! Please see the calendar below for list of PTO events.

### PTO 2012-2013 Calendar and Event Information

(Dates are tentative and subject to change)

**AUG 30-SEPT 13:** Cookie Dough / Fall Fundraiser - *Volunteers needed to check and distribute orders.*

**AUGUST 24:** Box Top Collection – *Turn in your box tops to help earn money for your school and earn dress down passes for your child.*

**OCTOBER 15:** Box Top Collection – *Turn in your box tops to help earn money for your school and earn dress down passes for your child.*

**OCTOBER 26:** Halloween Howl - *A family event with games, food and fun. Volunteers needed to work booths, set up, clean up, etc.*

**TBA:** Scholastic Book Fair – *Annual fair to benefit the Media Center. Help with book sales and monitoring.*

**NOVEMBER 16:** Football Game – *An afternoon of good old American football fun with a tailgate party to start things off. A fun event you can bring the whole family to.*

**NOVEMBER 20:** Thanksgiving Feast - *A turkey lunch is enjoyed by all students, along with performances by classes. Help setting up, serving and cleaning up is needed.*

**NOVEMBER 26-30:** Week of Giving - *Help collect gifts and toys to be donated.*

**DECEMBER 10-14:** Holiday Gift Shop – *Volunteers needed to distribute information, setup displays, restock inventory and process sales.*

**JANUARY 11:** Box Top Collection – *Turn in your box tops to help earn money for your school and earn dress down passes for your child.*

**FEBRUARY 8:** Kindergarten Father's Breakfast for Kindergarten Dads - *Help is needed to set up, serve and clean up.*

**FEBRUARY 12-22:** Boosterthon Fun Run - *A fundraiser, generating a lot of excitement throughout the school. Which everyone can participate in. This will include a full week of a Fun Run team member coming in and "Pumping up the Kids" and at the end of the week, a running course is setup for the kids to run.*

**MARCH 15:** Box Top Collection – *Turn in your box tops to help earn money for your school and earn dress down passes for your child.*

**MARCH 15:** Henderson vs. Boca High Basketball Game - *Volunteers needed to sell tickets, food and spirit items.*

**APRIL 12:** Kindergarten Mother's Breakfast for Kindergarten Moms – *Help is needed to set up, serve and clean up.*

**MAY 4:** Spring Carnival and Auction - *A family event with activities, food and fun. Many volunteers are needed to set up, supervise and clean up.*

**MAY 6-10:** Teacher Appreciation Week - *Work with Teacher Appreciation Committee.*

**MAY 10:** Box Top Collection – *Turn in your box tops to help earn money for your school and earn dress down passes for your child.*

## REPORT CARDS AND PARENT PORTAL

### Parent Portal to FOCUS

To log on to FOCUS use the following link:

<https://faus.focusschoolsoftware.com/focus>

Your **user name** will be **your child's student ID**.

The **initial password** to sign in will be the **student's birthday** using the following format:  
01/01/11 (month/day/year).

Once logged in, you may change your password under MY INFORMATION/ DEMOGRAPHIC- ADDRESS INFO/GENERAL.

**NOTE:** If you use Internet Explorer as your browser you will need to use the link below to download a free version of Firefox. We have found that FOCUS runs much better using the Firefox browser (<http://www.mozilla.org/en-US/firefox/new>).

This is a restricted network. Use of this network, its equipment, and resources is monitored at all times and requires explicit permission from the network administrator and Florida Atlantic University Schools. If you do not have this permission in writing, you are violating the regulations of this network and can and will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law. By continuing into this system, you are acknowledging that you are aware of and agree to these terms.

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## WHAT FAMILIES NEED TO KNOW ABOUT HOMELESSNESS AND PUBLIC EDUCATION

### Definition of Homelessness

Local school districts must ensure that homeless children and youth have equal access to a free, appropriate public education. Homeless children and youth are defined as those who lack a fixed, regular, and adequate night-time resident. This includes those who are:

- sharing housing due to loss of housing or economic hardship;
- living in motels, hotels, camping grounds, or dilapidated trailers due to lack of alternative housing;
- living in emergency or transitional housing;
- living in cars, parks, public spaces, abandoned buildings, substandard housing, or bus and train stations;
- awaiting foster care;
- abandoned in hospitals;
- living in a public or private place not designed for or ordinarily used as a regular place to sleep; and
- migrant students, living in a situation described above.

### Your Children's Rights

The federally-funded McKinney-Vento Homeless Education Assistance Act established educational rights and protections for students experiencing homelessness. Homeless children and youth are entitled to:

- enroll in school without having a permanent address.
- enroll and attend school while arranging for required school records or documents.
- remain in the school attended before becoming homeless.
- receive special programs and services for which they are eligible.
- attend school and participate in school programs with students who are not homeless
- receive assistance with transportation to school.

### When You Move

Becoming homeless is highly disruptive to students in many ways. Whenever possible, use the following guidelines when moving is necessary.

- Inform your child's teacher, guidance counselor, and principal that you are moving and give them the new address.
- Let school officials know if you want your child to remain in the same school.
- Ask for a copy of your child's school records, including immunizations.
- Safeguard and keep a copy of school records, birth certificates, and all health and immunization records accessible.
- Have a reliable person keep a second copy of these important records.
- Enroll your child(ren) in school as soon as possible.

### Ask About School Services

- Breakfast and lunch program
- School supplies

For more information, contact Lori Vogel, Assistant Principal, at 561-297-3970.

## COMMUNITY RESOURCES

### **HENDERSON AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM (HASP)**

fau.hasp@fau.edu (561)297-3952

An educational after school hours service operating hours are until 6:00 pm on regular school days as well as on most early dismissal days. HASP services are available to elementary and middle school students enrolled at A.D. Henderson University School.

### **CHILDREN'S SERVICES COUNCIL**

1919 N. FLAGLER DRIVE

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33407

(561) 740-7000

After School Programs/Summer School Programs; Family Support Services; Parenting Information and Education

### **EARLY LEARNING COALITION OF PALM BEACH COUNTY**

(561) 214-8000

Voluntary Universal Pre-Kindergarten

### **CHILDREN'S MEDICAL SERVICES**

5101 GREENWOOD AVENUE

WEST PALM BEACH, FLORIDA 33407

(561) 881-5040

Health care and services for medically fragile children

### **FLORIDA DEPARTMENT OF CHILDREN AND FAMILIES**

#### **Primary Contact:**

Dennis Miles

#### **Primary Contact Title:**

Interim Regional Managing Director

#### **Address:**

111 S. Sapodilla Avenue

West Palm Beach Florida 33401

United States

#### **Phone Number:**

(561) 837-5078