

# MINUTES

Wednesday, October 12, 2011

Florida Atlantic University Schools' School Advisory Body  
A.D. Henderson University School Media Center  
College of Education, Florida Atlantic University

- I. **Call to Order/Sign-In/Flag Salute/Approval of Agenda** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair  
Call to order made by Ms. Daphna Smolka, Acting Chair, at 6:30pm. Attending members signed in and the Salute to the Flag followed.

**Motion** – Motion was made by Ms. Robin Barkes to approve the Draft Agenda  
**Second** – Seconded by Mr. Brian Schum  
**Unanimous Approval**

- II. **Welcome** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair  
Ms. Smolka welcomed the members of the 2011-2012 School Advisory Body.

Members who were present:

Ms. Robin Barkes – Elementary School Faculty Representative  
Mr. Elliott Bernstein – At-Large Parent Representative  
Ms. Sharon Chapnick – High School Parent Representative  
Ms. Kaye Dickens – Middle School Parent Representative  
Mr. Keith Feit – At-Large Faculty Representative  
Dr. Tammy Ferguson – Principal/Director  
Dr. Stephen Locke – FAU Faculty Representative  
Mr. David Santiago – FAU High School Representative  
Mr. Brian Schum – Secondary Faculty Representative  
Dr. Deborah Shepherd – College of Education, Dean's Office Representative  
Ms. Daphna Smolka – At-Large Parent Representative

Others Present:

Mr. Glenn Thomas – Assistant Dean, Pk-12 School and Educational Programs  
Ms. Allyn Margolies - Recording Secretary  
Dr. Rudy Collum – Assistant Principal, A. D. Henderson  
Mr. Hafiz Shekh – FAU High School SGA Vice President  
Mr. Marc Hopin – Parent

Members who were absent:

Ms. Emma del Real – Business/Community Citizen (Unexcused)  
Mr. Troy McLellan – Elementary School Parent Representative (Excused)

- III. **Introductions** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair  
There were no introductions made this evening.

- IV. **Approval of Minutes** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

**Approval of September 14, 2011 Monthly SAB Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion** – Motion was made by Dr. Stephen Locke to approve the September 14, 2011 FAUS' School Advisory Body Meeting Minutes.

**Second** – Seconded by Mr. Elliot Bernstein

**Unanimous Approval**

**Approval of August 24, 2011 FAUS' SAB Committees Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion** – Motion made by Dr. Stephen Locke to approve the August 24, 2011 FAUS' SAB Committees Meeting Minutes

**Second** – Seconded by Mr. Elliot Bernstein

**Unanimous Approval**

**V. Recognitions and Awards**

Dr. Tammy Ferguson, Principal/Director

**A. Dancing Classrooms**

1. Dr. Tammy Ferguson introduced Ms. Maggie Prince, the teacher who was instrumental in bringing "Dancing Classrooms" to A. D. Henderson, and is assisted by Ms. Gina Bove and Ms. Suzanne Sutton.
2. "Dancing Classrooms" is a national ballroom dance program for school-aged children and Henderson is the first school in Florida to participate in this program, which consists of two 45-minute lessons per week for 10 weeks.
3. Eight students (4 boys, 4 girls), along with their parents, attended tonight's meeting to give a demonstration of several dances they have learned. After their presentation, they selected SAB members to join them for a dance.
4. An article on "Dancing Classrooms" appeared in the October 19, 2011 edition of the Sun-Sentinel. A scanned copy has been attached to the back of these Minutes.

**B. Most Improved Yearbook Award**

1. Dr. Ferguson announced that the yearbook publisher award A. D. Henderson the "Most Improved Yearbook Award" for its 2010-2011 school yearbook.

C. It was suggested to add the Recognitions and Awards section of this meeting to the Henderson website.

**VI. Principal/Director's Report**

Dr. Tammy Ferguson, Principal/Director

**A. PTO**

1. FAU Football Game – New Stadium Opening,
  - a. Dr. Rudy Collum, Assistant Principal, arranged to get a block of tickets in the end zone section of the new stadium for the PTO to sell as a fundraising tool.
  - b. The PTO sold 540 tickets!
  - c. Special parking hang-tags will allow the parents, faculty and staff to park on the Henderson school grounds for the duration of the game.
  - d. Approximately 120 students will be allowed to stand in the tunnel to "high-five" the players as they enter the field.
  - e. The PTO's next goal is to sell 1000 tickets for the FAU Homecoming Game.

**VII. Action Items**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

There were no Action Items at this meeting.

- VIII. Discussion Items** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair
- A. A. D. Henderson Website
    - 1. Dr. Tammy Ferguson has been working with Andres Leon on the school website, and a new School Advisory Body page should be updated in the near future.
  - B. College Fair
    - 1. FAU High School, in combination with some other local high schools, will be meeting for a “college fair” to get a broader understanding of what the colleges have to offer.
- IX. Old Business** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair
- There was no old business this evening.
- X. Public Comment** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair
- A. Mr. Marc Hopin, parent and former SAB Treasurer, briefly brought up the topic of the school budget.
- XI. Announcements and Comments** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair
- A. Dr. Tammy Ferguson stated that Ms. Pam Slattery has been selected as A. D. Henderson’s Registered Nurse.
- XII. Adjournment** Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair
- Motion** – Motion was made by Ms. Robin Barkes to adjourn the meeting at 7:00pm.
- Second** – Seconded by Mr. Keith Feit
- Unanimous Approval**

[sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/boca-raton/fl-brf-dancing-1019-20111019,0,3843394.story](http://sun-sentinel.com/news/palm-beach/boca-raton/fl-brf-dancing-1019-20111019,0,3843394.story)

## South Florida Sun-Sentinel.com

### New program dances its way into local classrooms

Marci Shatzman [mshatzman@tribune.com](mailto:mshatzman@tribune.com)

October 19, 2011

Typical of fifth-graders, Barbara Monteiro wasn't too crazy about boys until she took part in the pilot program for Dancing Classrooms at the A.D. Henderson School on Florida Atlantic University's [Boca Raton](#) campus.

Three classes took part in the Southeast Florida launch of the social development program that uses ballroom dancing to teach students everything from math and the visual arts, to how to get along with the opposite sex. "It's pretty cool," said Barbara, 11, who already takes jazz and ballet lessons. "But she never danced with boys before," her mother Rosimeiri said.

Now it was show time, and Barbara, 11, and her classmates were all dressed up for a demonstration for benefactors at Woodfield Country Club, hosted by philanthropist Maria Occhigrossi. The next day founder Pierre Dulaine, an award-winning Broadway dancer and choreographer, visited Crystal Lakes Elementary School in [Boynton Beach](#) to illustrate how his program is integrated into the curriculum. Sessions are 45 minutes, twice a week for 10 weeks. The 20th lesson is a school showcase.

Dancing Classrooms has served more than 170,000 children in New York City since Dulaine founded it in 1994. It's now in 509 schools in 24 cities. Antonio Banderas played Dulaine in the movie "Take the Lead."

Deborah Briggs, former president of the [Boca Raton](#) Theatre Guild, is executive director of Dancing Classrooms of Southeast Florida and managed to attract a group of like-minded patrons.

No stranger to ballroom dancing, Occhigrossi is a major benefactor of Boca's Ballroom Battle, the annual ballroom dancing fundraiser for the George Snow Scholarship Fund. She's also the mother of Olivia, a fifth-grader at Saint Andrew's School, and a budding ballroom dancer.


Occhigrossi has a vision for rolling out the program in Palm Beach and Broward counties. "I want all the schools to do this and then have a cotillion at Saint Andrew's" she said. "If we form a partnership with public, private, charter and parochial schools, than schools that can't afford the program can be adopted," she said.

Marleen Forkas danced in Boca's Ballroom Battle and is another Snow patron. Now she has lent her support as a member of the Founders Group for Dancing Classrooms Southeast Florida. "If you teach

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children the right thing, they will have it for a lifetime," she said.

Deirdre Radler, a famous name in ballroom dancing with her husband Daniel, has signed on as one of three part-time teaching artists hired locally by Dulaine and trained by him in New York. The Radlers dance on "America's Ballroom Challenge," and he is a 14-time U.S. National Champion. Deirdre teaches some of children privately, which is how she came to be involved with Dancing Classrooms. "She's the grace and the elegance of Dancing Classrooms and the wind behind my wings," Briggs said.

"Dancing Classrooms would not exist without the passion of Margaret Prince, a fifth-grade teacher at A.D. Henderson School. She has spearheaded the program along with the other fifth-grade teachers Gina Bove and Suzanne Sutton, and their principal Tammy Ferguson," Briggs added.

For more information, visit [dancingclassrooms-sfl.org](http://dancingclassrooms-sfl.org), email Deborah Briggs at [dhbriggs@DancingClassrooms-SFL.org](mailto:dhbriggs@DancingClassrooms-SFL.org) or call 561-247-0017.

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