

# AMENDED MINUTES

## Florida Atlantic University Schools Advisory Body Wednesday, February 9, 2011 A.D. Henderson University School Media Center College of Education, Florida Atlantic University

### I. Call to Order/Sign-In/Flag Salute/Approval of Agenda

Call to order made by Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair, at 6:04pm.

**Motion** – Motion was made by Mr. Shevrin Jones to approve the Agenda with an amendment to include the bullying policy to the Principal’s Report, Item VI.

**Second** – Seconded by Ms. Lacey Chimienti.

**Unanimous Approval**

### II. Welcome

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

Ms. Smolka welcomed the members of the School Advisory Body.

#### Members who were present:

Mr. Elliott Bernstein – Vice Chair and At-Large Parent Representative  
Ms. Lacey Chimienti – Secretary and Elementary Faculty Representative  
Ms. Emma del Real – Business/Community Citizen  
Mr. Jonathan Goldberg -- Staff Representative  
Dr. Patricia Hodge – Principal/Director  
Mr. Shevrin Jones – At-Large Faculty Representative  
Dr. Stephen Locke – FAU Faculty Representative  
Ms. Tracie Nieporte –At-Large Parent Representative  
Mr. David Santiago – Student Representative, FAU High  
Dr. Deborah Shepherd – College of Education, Dean’s Office Representative  
Ms. Daphna Smolka – Chair and Elementary School Representative

#### Others Present:

Mr. Glenn Thomas – Assistant Dean, Pk-12 School and Educational Programs  
Ms. Allyn Margolies – Recording Secretary

#### Members who were absent:

Mr. Tom Ievoli – Middle School Faculty Representative (Excused)

### III. Introductions

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

- a. Dr. Patricia Hodge introduced Mr. Israel Lopez, the FAUS new Assistant Principal. She will also send out a formal letter of introduction to the parents and include an article in the next issue of HawkTalk.
- b. Mr. Lopez gave a brief background to the members of the SAB.

**IV. Approval of Minutes**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

**Approval of January 12, 2011 Monthly SAB Meeting Minutes:**

**Motion** – Motion was made by Ms. Lacey Chimienti to approve the January 12, 2011 FAUS Advisory Body Meeting Minutes with the following amendment: Correct VIII. Discussion Items, b. Vision Statement, Item 1. to read, “The Vision Statement was discussed at the last faculty meeting; a committee of teachers continues to work on this matter.”

**Second** – Seconded by Mr. Shevrin Jones

**Unanimous Approval**

**V. Recognitions and Awards**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

- a. Dr. Patricia Hodge announced that Ellen Y. Leung, 11<sup>th</sup> Grade, received the National Merit Scholarship’s Certificate of Merit.
- b. Dr. Deborah Shepherd suggested at every monthly SAB meeting, someone be mentioned for special recognition, whether that is a student, teacher or member of the staff, so that it will be recorded in the Minutes.

**VI. Principal/Director’s Report**

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Principal/Director

- a. SAT 10 will start this week for all grades.
- b. Bullying Policy:
  1. Mr. Marc Hopin posed a hypothetical case of bullying:
    - i. A bullying situation escalates into a physical fight. If the victim decides that he/she needs to defend himself/herself, he/she will also receive automatic suspension along with the perpetrator, which does not seem right.
    - ii. Dr. Hodge responded that our bullying policy states that it is never appropriate to hit someone. If someone feels like they are being attacked, they immediately need to go to a teacher or someone in authority and report the incident, but never resort to fighting. If the bullying has been going on and is documented, then the victim would no longer be in the proximity of the bully and therefore this type of situation would not occur. At all times, a victim needs to seek help and not fight back; suspension for the victim then becomes unwarranted.
- c. PTO
  1. Ms. Daphna Smolka stated that the Silent Auction will be held on March 4<sup>th</sup> at the Wyndham.
  2. The Father’s Breakfast was very well attended.
  3. Mr. Marc Hopin inquired about the status of the job posting for a middle school science/math teacher. Dr. Hodge responded that interviews were currently being held.

**VII. Action Items**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

**a. Approval of 2011-2012 School Calendar**

Dr. Patricia Hodge, Principal/Director

1. A request was made to add the color key to the bottom of the new calendar.

**Motion** – Motion was made by Mr. Shevrin Jones to approve the 2011-2012 School Calendar, with amendments.

**Second** – Seconded by Mrs. Emma del Real.

**Unanimous Approval**

**VIII. Discussion Items**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

- a. **Race To The Top Update (RTTT)** Mr. Glenn Thomas – Assistant Dean
  - 1. As of February 8<sup>th</sup>, we are emailing verbiage to the DOE to get approval. Once it is accepted, a meeting will be held for parents to explain how the program will work.
  - 2. Mr. Thomas and Mr. Hopin have discussed where the RTTT funds will be able to be applied.
  - 3. Mr. Thomas explained to the SAB members some particulars of the monetary breakdown. He does not expect there to be any extra money from this.
  - 4. Mr. Thomas does not expect the state Governor to sign off on this program until the beginning of June.
  - 5. Dr. Hodge stated that the school is sending people to the Vendors Fairs.
- b. **Education Committee** Mr. Shevrin Jones, Comm. Chair
  - 1. Mr. Jones stated that at the last Faculty Meeting, the 2011-2011 Calendar was voted on and this is the document that was brought for approval to tonight’s meeting.
  - 2. The Vision Statement should be completed in time for our next Committee Meeting, to be held on Wednesday, February 23, 2011.
  - 3. Mr. Hopin requested a status update of the School Improvement Plan at the next Education Committee Meeting.
- d. **Finance Committee** Mr. Marc Hopin, Comm. Chair
  - 1. Mr. Thomas stated that the budget was reviewed at the last Finance Committee Meeting.
  - 2. If there are any drastic changes that might take place because of a lower budget, they need to be discussed at the next meeting to avoid any parent upheaval.
  - 3. Mr. Thomas stated that school currently has a \$1,000,000 surplus to defray a possible state budget shortfall and its fiscal effects for 2011-12.
- e. **Personnel Committee** Mr. Tom Ievoli, Comm. Chair
  - 1. Dr. Hodge reported that the committee reviewed the Parent/Guardian pre-survey and discussed putting together the full survey.
  - 2. Ms. Smolka asked if any concerns from the pre-survey had been addressed as yet. Dr. Hodge responded that those improvements have been included in HawkTalk and have been posted on our website. She gave a partial list of those things already accomplished, such as improvement to the bathrooms, etc.

**IX. Old Business**  
None

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

**X. Public Comment**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

- a. Dr. Hodge introduced some meeting guests, including Ms. Ann Schaefer, first grade teacher, Mr. Madhu Sudan, student teacher, and Dr. Valerie Bristor, Dean, College of Education.

**XI. Announcements and Comments**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

- a. Mr. Shevrin Jones announced the upcoming Science Olympiad to be held on Saturday, February 19<sup>th</sup> at the College of Engineering.
- b. Ms. Smolka informed the members about a soda can tab collection box, located in the front office, and asked everyone to participate.
- c. Mr. Shevrin announced that the Talented 10th Project will be held on Friday, February 25<sup>th</sup>. It’s a black history event that will take place in the morning and conclude at 12 noon with a black history luncheon.
- d. Mr. Israel Lopez will be introduced to the students tomorrow.

**XII. Adjournment**

Ms. Daphna Smolka, Chair

By unanimous approval, the meeting was adjourned at 6:45pm.