



# HawkTalk

A Newsletter from FAUS, PTO for the parents and children of A. D. H. U. S. & FAU High

Vol. 8, Issue 6 / Jan., 2007

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## Calendar

January 25, 2007  
PDD—Noon Dismissal

February 6-7, 2007  
FCAT Writes!

February 19, 2007  
No School—Presidents' Day

February 26—March 9, 2007  
FCAT Testing

### **HELP WANTED!**

**ALL COMMITTEES**  
Annual FAUS  
Silent / Live  
Auction  
Saturday  
March 24, 2007  
Ocean Breeze  
Country Club  
Contact the PTO Office



FAUS PTO is proud to present the

**11th Annual  
ADHUS Faculty  
vs. PALS**

(Police Athletic League)

**Basketball Game  
March 9, 2007**

**At Sugar Sand Park**

Look for an informational flyer coming home soon.

*This is a Family Fun event and students must attend with a parent or guardian.*

## *A Message from FAUS, PTO Board...*

Hello everyone! It's great to be back from the long holiday break!

Next... Silent Auction! As you know, the Silent Auction is one of our biggest fundraisers for our school.

This year the silent auction will be held at the Ocean Breeze Golf and Country Club on Saturday March 24th! We will again be having the Casino and stay tuned for some amazing surprises! We are now asking for volunteers for the auction. We still have vacancies in all of the subcommittees; Facilities, Decorating, Technology, Financial, Entertainment, Contributions, and Marketing/Sales. Please contact any PTO officer with your offer to volunteer today and watch for ticket sale flyers that will be circulating soon. We would love any and all help possible to make this the best auction ever!!

On a different subject, the PTO Board is evaluating a software package called PTO Manager, which helps manage events and volunteers and other PTO functions. If you have Internet access and would like to see it or help in the evaluation, please go to <http://www.adhenderson.ptomanager.com/> and get registered as a volunteer. It helps us to have more data to evaluate, and we value your opinions as well!

We strive to continue the excellence and build upon the successes of previous years, and we're counting on YOU, the volunteers and involved parents of Henderson to continue the tradition!

Thank you,

Your 2006 – 2007 PTO Board of Directors

Scott Busey, Lynette Williams, Hank Ayotte, Heather Coltman, Janice Cunning-



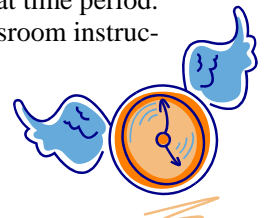
## *A Letter from the Principal*

Dear Parents and Guardians,

Happy New Year! I hope that you enjoyed your time during the holidays and that you and your children are refreshed and ready to work hard in this second semester. A new year always brings the opportunity for resolutions and what better time than now to ensure that we are teaching our children that punctuality is important. Many times I stand at the door when the bell rings and marvel at the numbers of students who arrive late. Many of them habitually! I have watched the traffic flow more days than I can count, listened faithfully to the traffic reports each morning, and communicated with the FAU Police Services regarding traffic concerns. But I must tell you, my greatest concern is that regardless of how smoothly traffic flows, we have far too many students arriving late and not due to the traffic on our campus. Being on time does not mean just walking through the front door before the bell rings. It means in the class and ready to begin when the bell rings. That is valuable classroom instructional time. It sets the tone for the rest of the day. It also sets a pattern of importance relative to employment and the need to be on time for work. Remember that everything we do as adults makes an impression on our children and their future patterns of behavior.

Being on time will become even more important as we enter the season of testing. If your child is not in the classroom when the session begins, they will be held in the office until the session ends. That could mean 2-3 hours depending on the tests of the day. Your child would then take the tests during a make up session but would miss any classroom instruction during that time period. Please assist us in making sure your child gets every possible moment of classroom instructional time both throughout the year and during testing season.

Sincerely,  
Marla Brady, Ed. D.



## FAUS, PTO 2006-2007 Calendar and Event Information

(dates are tentative and  
subject to change)

**FEBRUARY 9:** Middle School Valentine's Day Social - A fun event for middle school students with D.J. and dancing. Volunteers needed to help set up, clean up, secure D.J., arrange food, and chaperone.

**MARCH 9th:** Henderson vs. PAL Basketball Game - Volunteers sell tickets, food, and spirit items.

**MARCH 24:** Silent Auction - The biggest fund-raiser of the year! Committee people are needed to secure donations, plan evening, sell tickets, etc.

**MAY 5:** Spring Fling - A family event with activities, food, and fun. Many volunteers are needed to set up, supervise, and clean up.

**MAY 7-11:** Teacher Appreciation Week - Work with Teacher Appreciation Committee to show teachers how much they are appreciated.

**MAY 10:** Mother's Day Breakfast for Kindergarten Moms - Help is needed to set up, serve, and clean up. Volunteers are needed to set up, supervise, and clean up.



## Great Idea!

If you have a great idea for the school submit it to SAC in the Suggestion Box at the Main School Entrance.

## HawkTalk

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## Volunteer Hours

By Janet Hopin, Volunteer Coordinator  
561-498-3745 [bocajanet@yahoo.com](mailto:bocajanet@yahoo.com)

Congratulations to the following volunteers for reaching a new milestone: Congratulations to the following volunteers for reaching a new milestone:

Over 2,000 hours  
Fred Platt  
Kris Moser

Over 1,000 hours  
Denise Platt  
Gina Sands

Over 500 hours  
Christine Smith  
Lisa Alvarez  
Roxann Suarez  
Sandy Chernoff  
Sharon Barcenas



Thank you to all of you for being so generous with your time. Volunteers receive special name pins once they reach 100, 500 and over 1,000 hours of school service hours.

The only way we can recognize you for your cumulative volunteer hours is if you turn them in to Linda Donev. You can do this by noting them on a piece of paper and leaving it at the front office or by emailing your hours to Linda at [lin-dadonev@yahoo.com](mailto:lin-dadonev@yahoo.com).

## School Advisory Council

by Dr. Marla Brady, Principal

The School Advisory Council (SAC) is a team of people representing various segments of the community parents, teachers, students, administrators, support staff, business/ industry people and other interested community members. The purpose of a SAC is to assist in the preparation and evaluation (developing and evaluating) of the results of the school improvement plan and to assist the Director and Principal with the annual school budget. Additionally, the SAC receives funds to be used at the discretion of the School Advisory Committee. A portion of the money is used for implementing the school improvement plan.

## Volunteer Opportunities

By Janet Hopin, Volunteer Coordinator  
561-498-3745 [bocajanet@yahoo.com](mailto:bocajanet@yahoo.com)

Welcome back from vacation. I hope everyone enjoyed the holidays.

As always the second half of the school year brings with it a lot of volunteer opportunities. Help is always needed in the cafeteria, the media center, the computer lab, with the running club and with stuffing the Friday Folders. Volunteers are also needed for a new project, the Henderson and FAU HS Cookbook. Please contact me if you would like to discuss any of these opportunities.

Preparations for the 3/24/07 Silent and Live Auction are underway. Many, many volunteers are needed for this special event. Room Parents will need assistance putting together your class projects and baskets. Please contact your child's Room Parent if you would like to assist. You can help by being prompt to respond to their letter, phone calls and emails.

The class projects and baskets are always among the popular silent auction items. All Room Parents need to determine their class projects and baskets. Kris Moser (561-394-2813) should be contacted about class baskets and Karen Corso (561-271-3935) should be contacted about class projects. Each class should have at least one project and basket for the auction.

Please do not hesitate to contact me with any questions. Thank you for your continued support.

Parents are encouraged to attend monthly SAC meetings. Meeting notices can be found on the SAC web page at the school web site and on the SAC bulletin board located in the school near the After School Office. Time is allowed for public comment.

SAC meeting schedule for remainder of year (subject to change): Tuesday 2/13, Wednesday 3/14, Wednesday 4/11, Wednesday 5/9. The meetings begin at 6 PM and are held in the Media Center.

The SAC web page also contains other useful information including a copy of the School Improvement Plan and minutes from SAC meetings.

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## Reading Update!

Mrs. Linville, Reading Specialist

All classes are very busy following a wonderful holiday break; students are actively engaged in a variety of reading and writing activities to better prepare them for the upcoming standardized tests. Students in grades 3-5 who have been identified as needing additional support in reading or math are participating in an after school tutoring program sponsored by SAC.

A wonderful resource which contains a wealth of information on FCAT and helpful hints for promoting literacy is the Just Read! Florida website:

<http://www.justreadflorida.com>.

Another important information source is the Florida Department of Education website, <http://www.fldoe.org>. The website contains a FCAT home page link which provides parents and teachers with everything you ever wanted to know about FCAT and more! The link also includes access to released tests and questions used on previous FCAT assessments. Students

in grades 3-9 will be given individual codes access FCAT Explorer on the website; the program helps students learn about and practice the skills tested on the Florid Comprehensive Assessment Test (FCAT) in reading and math.

The first FCAT assessment will be given on February 6th to 4th and 8th grade students. While the 4th and 8th graders are taking the FCAT Writing+ assessment, students in all other grades will be participating in a school wide writing prompt. Watch for parent updates and materials which will provide you with more information on how you can help your child prepare for the upcoming FCAT (Grades 3-12) and the SAT 10 (Grades K-2). It's important that we all work together to insure the success of all of our Henderson students!



## Physical Education Department Update!

By Coach Plas

- ▶ Students in grades 2-5 participated in the Ring in the New Year Run the first week back to school. The top 3 boys and top 3 girls in each class were awarded with certificates. Fourth grader Frank Moser was the overall top finisher with a time of 6:02.
- ▶ The Globetrotter Fitness Challenge has seen a few changes in recent weeks. After 9 weeks of competition, Mrs. Sturrock's class leads the K-1<sup>st</sup> grade group, Ms. Barzey's class leads the 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> grade group, and Mrs. Barkes's class leads the 4<sup>th</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade group. Please keep working out and filling in the fitness logs each week!
- ▶ In swimming class, 3<sup>rd</sup>-5<sup>th</sup> grade will be working on fitness swimming and K-2<sup>nd</sup> grade will be working on water skills. Please continue to bring towels and goggles on swim days.

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The following article will be featured in three parts. It includes 10 tips for being involved in your child's school. Look for a few ideas in each issue of HawkTalk.

## 10 Ways to Get Involved in Your Child's School

By Erika Scott

You want your child to be an active learner, but how can you become more active in your child's school? And does it make a difference?

Assuming an active role in your child's school experience may be more valuable than you think. While many factors contribute to academic achievement, students reap the benefits when parents are involved in their education. According to the US Department of Education, students with involved parents generally have higher grades and test scores, better attendance, more motivation, better self-esteem, improved graduation rates, and a greater likelihood of pursuing a postsecondary education. It's time to jump in and get involved!

### Finding the Right Role

Examine your strengths to determine how you can make a lasting impact. A behind-the-scenes person might enjoy setting up for special events, while others may prefer a more visible leadership role in the school community. Consider whether your talents would be best used working with children or adults.

Next, look at your schedule and consider how much time you have to spare. Would you prefer to become involved in the classroom regularly or on a committee with limited meeting times? Regardless of your schedule or personal style, there are countless meaningful ways you can get involved in your child's school.

### 1. School Council

A school council or advisory board assists the principal in fulfilling the school's core values or mission statement. These organizations often include parents, teachers, and other members of the

school community. Such an organization is a perfect venue for parents to learn about school issues as they emerge and then raise concerns, offer recommendations, or make suggestions. Committees are generally task-oriented, allowing small groups of parents and teachers to focus on specific issues related to the school community.

### 2. Newcomers Committee

It's never easy to be the new kid in town. Matching new students and their families with host families connects newcomers with people willing to answer questions and offer assistance. As a member of the school's newcomers committee, you may work with other parents to coordinate a welcome picnic and an informational meeting for new members of the school community. If empathy and hospitality are your gifts, this could be the committee for you.

### 3. Join the School Crisis Team

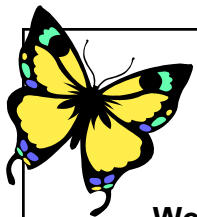
School crisis teams are often comprised of a small group of parents, teachers, school support staff, and the principal. These teams are responsible for establishing and fine tuning a protocol to follow should a crisis occur. Parent volunteers can play an essential role by volunteering to design and implement phone chains if information needs to be disseminated to the school community efficiently. Parents may also be asked to organize a place for members of the school community to gather and process crisis events together. Take-charge and empathetic people are perfect candidates for this committee.

*To be continued...*

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## Middle School News

If your child receives a detention, it is imperative that he/she serve the detention on the date specified. Students who do not serve the detention will be given an additional detention to serve OR a Saturday detention. Detentions serve as warnings that current behavior may result in a RTR referral. Detentions are not part of the student's record like a RTR referral is. Keep in mind that detentions are like 'reminders' that current behavior is not appropriate or acceptable. End of the year field trips are just around the corner. Students with RTR referrals or low grades may not be allowed to go on these trips. Encourage your child to think about the choices he/she makes and the consequences that may occur.



### Buy a Brick!

We are working on this year's brick installation!

Don't miss the boat!  
Forms available in the  
FAUS, PTO office, or contact  
Karen Corso, Chair  
561-271-3935

**ADHUS HASA Butterfly  
Garden Brick Fundraising  
Committee**

ButterflyGardenBricks@kleinbit.us  
Phone (954) 571-2327  
Fax (209) 439-3475

## Art Room News!

I want to wish all our students and their families a very happy New Year. My hope for the New Year is to instill a love for the arts in all our students. I plan to continue to integrate my art with the academics and always encourage everyone to do their best.

Thank you for all your help.  
Elaine Sattler, Art



## Family Fun Nights

We can all give a sigh of relief that all the Family Fun Nights, for Kindergarten through Fifth grade, were a great success. Mother Nature was kind to us this year and gave us nothing but fantastic weather. It was great to see the children getting together with their friends and having a wonderful time, where it didn't involve class work. It is always one of the kids favorite events.

Not only did the children have a great time, but the parents and faculty had a wonderful opportunity to socialize as well. Sonnia and I would like to thank all the parents and faculty who volunteered their time to help out. Your efforts made the events successful. Have a happy and safe Holiday.

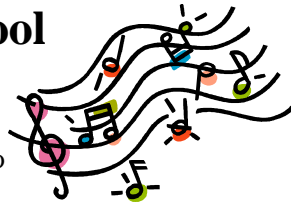
## Middle School Chorus,

By Sally Brown

Congratulations to John Collesano, Erin Cunningham, and Sasha Ferreira for their incredible performance at the All State Music Performance in Tampa in January at the All State Music Performance in Tampa in January. They went through strenuous testing and auditioning to be selected to participate with 300 other students throughout the state in this annual state competition. It is one of the highest honors for a choral or band student.

On Friday, February 2nd our students would like to invite everyone to our first "Night of Music". Various students will be featured as soloists to sing or perform on an instrument. Other students will be involved as set designers and MC's for the evening. Please come support them as they strive to raise some funds to help purchase new choral concert outfits.

Be watching for our signs and join our students for an evening of song



## Middle School Reading Notes

By Debbi Noelk



As everyone knows, the FCAT tests are just around the corner. You can help your child prepare for FCAT by setting aside 20 minutes everyday to read. Reading the newspaper or magazine articles are perfect as they are similar in length to most of the FCAT selections. Take some time to review vocabulary words being taught in Social Studies and Science. Many of the FCAT Reading selections are based on content being taught. Students with high vocabularies do well on the FCATS and on tests in general. Also, there are two internet sources available to help as well. First you can access the State of Florida website for FCAT tips and practice. The address is <http://www.firn.edu/doe/sas/fcat.htm>. You can also go to [www.fldoe.org](http://www.fldoe.org) and click on the parent site. Also the FCAT

explorer will soon be available for our students. We realize that the FCAT is just one test and there are many other important indicators of student performance. However, since the state continues to place such a strong emphasis on the FCAT, we want to assist you in helping your child do the best he or she can do on these tests. If you have further comments or questions, feel free to contact Debbie Noelk at [dvance@fau.edu](mailto:dvance@fau.edu).

## Room Available

Spanish teacher Mrs. Palacios would like to find a room in the area Monday through Friday. If you know of someone who could put a guest room to use and earn a little extra money, or an older person who needs a companion, please contact her at [cpalaci1@fau.edu](mailto:cpalaci1@fau.edu).

## KUMON MATH & READING CENTERS

# KUMON

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