

# HawkTalk

A Newsletter from FAUS,PTO for children of A. D. H. U. S. Vol. 9, Issue 5/December, 2007

## School Calendar

**December 21, 2007**

Noon Dismissal—  
No After School  
Middle School—12:00—2:00  
WINTER BASH!

**Dec. 24, 2007—Jan. 4, 2008**  
Winter Break

**Jan. 17, 2008**  
End of Second Quarter  
Author Visit—Debra Frasier

**Jan. 18, 2008**  
No School—Teacher Work Day

**Jan. 21, 2008**  
No School—MLK Day

**Jan. 25, 2008**  
Report Cards go Home

## Middle School Midterm Schedule Fall Semester 2007

Friday  
Dec. 14 - Science

Monday  
Dec. 17— Special Areas

Tuesday  
Dec. 18- Language Arts

Wednesday  
Dec. 19 – Social Studies

Thursday  
Dec. 20– Math

Friday  
Dec. 21-Noon Dismissal

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

We hope that you enjoyed the Thanksgiving holiday and are enjoying the winter holiday season. Our annual Thanksgiving Feast was a great success. The students, teachers and staff truly enjoyed the activities including the student performances and the wonderful meal. We are grateful for the fantastic job that Janet and Marc Hopin did once again in coordinating the event. Thanks also to the many parents that helped in setting up the night before, serving during the lunch, and the clean-up.

Thank you to all of the folks who supported the recent PTO events. Elisabeth Ingalls has coordinated our Week of Giving, and again has encouraged students and families to generously give gifts to those in need. Thank you to the many students who donated gifts, your support of this holiday tradition was overwhelming. Many children will benefit from your generous donations. Also a big thank you to Sonnia Rothgery and her many volunteers (elves) for running the Secret Santa Workshop. Students enjoyed picking out special gifts for their family and friends.

The Winter Celebration, an end-of-the-year party for middle/high school students only, is scheduled for December 21 from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. and the cost is \$5.00 per student. Remember only students in Henderson's middle school and FAU High may attend this event. If you would like to assist us with this event, please contact Carolyn Bethmann at 561-997-6209.

*(Continued on page 3)*

## *A Letter from the Principal*

Communication is such a big part of what we do on a daily basis. Communications with students, teachers and staff occur immediately each day via the announcements. We have Friday Folders, teacher newsletters, Hawk Talk, Homeworkhero, High School Happenings, Pinnacle, email, phones, marquis, the school web site, Alert Now phone messaging and many more. However, in spite of the fact that we try hard to get information out to you, sometimes we take for granted that we have been clear in our communications. Over the past several weeks, it has become apparent that there is a need to communicate the use of the RTR.

RTR stands for Responsibility Training Room. It is another term for in-school suspension or time out. The purpose of the RTR program is to provide an alternative setting when a student has made an inappropriate choice as indicated by a teacher or staff member in accordance with our Student Code of Conduct and a discipline referral. An assignment to RTR can only be made by an administrator and may be as short as one class period or as lengthy as 3 days depending on the level of the offense and the sequence of prior discipline issues.

Another concern that has surfaced is the use of RTR for dress code violations. RTR is used for dress code violations, but only as a tracking method. When a student is out of uniform in some capacity, they are sent to RTR for a violation slip. This only takes a few minutes and then the student returns to class. The slip is so that we can track the type of issues that occur, contact parents when there are regular occurrences, and students can show faculty as they change classes in the middle or high school so that they do not get sent to the RTR classroom each period. Students are not held in the RTR room for dress code violations, but there could be an assignment to RTR if the student were to have multiple violations and if the parent had already been contacted.

Since I am on the subject of communication and discipline, and since a cell phone might be on your

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## School Advisory Council

by Dr. Marla Brady, Principal

Thank you to the parents and guardians that took the time to complete the Fall 2007 SAC Parent and Guardian Climate Survey. Your information was summarized and reviewed at the SAC meeting 12/12/07. Because this is being written prior to this meeting I am unable to tell you specifically what took place at the meeting. The SAC will likely look to me to make improvements to our school that will improve the results of future surveys. The results of the Fall survey will be made available to parents and guardians. The SAC will monitor that necessary improvements are made.

The next SAC meeting is Wednesday, January 9, 2008 in the Media Center at 6 PM. SAC meetings are open to the public and members of the public are encouraged to attend. Time is allowed for public comment. There is a wealth of SAC related information on the SAC web page on the school's web site.

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## Thanksgiving Feast

by Marc and Janet Hopin, Co-chairs

Thank you to all that helped with this year's Thanksgiving Feast. You did an unbelievable job. Everything seemed to get done at a record pace. Monday night setup was a breeze, particularly with the help of the many dads. The servers did a fantastic job getting everyone served a hot Thanksgiving meal. And all of the other parents that helped Tuesday played an important role in keeping everything running smoothly, making sure everyone got ice cream, mints and the right drink. You all worked hard but it sure looked like you were having fun. Please try to join us again next year as we continue this wonderful Henderson and FAU HS tradition.

Thank you also to the Administration, faculty, staff and students for your cooperation and assistance. And a special thanks to Chef Joe and his staff for cooking a very tasty meal. We look forward to working with all of you again in 2008.

## Reading Update!

Mrs. Linville

### Reading Resource Room

Thanks to all of the parents and students who attended our *Families Building Better Readers* workshop on November 27<sup>th</sup>; we had a good turnout and hope it was enjoyable and informative for all participants. A special thank you to all of our "trainers" and volunteers who made the family literacy evening possible. Our lead trainer, Mrs. Noelk, presented the opening and wrap-up sessions as well as teaching parents how to choose the right book and guide reading practice. Three breakout sessions were conducted by the following teacher trainers: Ms. McCaul and Ms. Yazurlo taught parents reading games to play with their children; Ms. Barzey and Ms. Tolerton modeled how to capitalize on everyday "teachable moments" and presented examples of "fun" techniques that enhance oral language and vocabulary development; Mrs. Bresnahan and Mrs. O'Sullivan presented ideas for finding inexpensive reading materials, explained how "choice" in reading materials can motivate all readers, and described effective read aloud strategies. While parents were busy attending their sessions, trainers Ms. Bove, Mr. Brooks, Ms. Hodge, Mrs. Linville, Mrs. Sestrich, Ms. Sturrock, and Ms. Wierzba were **very** busy conducting reading/math learning centers. The students listened to a variety of stories and completed correlated reading and math activities!

Our next reading event is scheduled for Thursday, January 17<sup>th</sup>! Students and faculty are looking forward to our special author visitation by Debra Frasier. Students have the opportunity to purchase **personalized autographed** books by Mrs. Frasier at **reduced** prices. Descriptions of the books and order forms have been sent home in Friday Folders; all orders are due by **Monday, December 17<sup>th</sup>** so books can be delivered to your child on the day of the visitation. This is a wonderful occasion for your child to purchase an extraordinary book that he/she will treasure forever! Workshops for K-5 will be offered throughout the day and an evening presentation will be held for students in grades 3-5 and their parents. Mark your calendars now for this once in a lifetime event!

Holiday season is a perfect time to gather your family together to share a memorable holiday story. Throughout the activity-packed vacation days, please continue to set aside a time **each** day for reading. While shopping for that perfect gift, remember that a special **book** makes a wonderful and lasting present!



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## HawkTalk

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Editor - Gina Sands

HawkTalk is a publication of the Home and School Association of Alexander D. Henderson University School. Every effort is made to print accurate information. We regret any errors and/or omissions. If you would like to submit an article for an upcoming issue, please deposit the article or

# Update on School Facilities

Glenn Thomas, FAUS Director

The University Master Plan work for the section of the campus containing the university schools is in final draft. The location of future roads, parking and buildings is now in final review and the preferred location of the replacements for the portables has been determined to be just north of the new middle school building. The plan is to place a series of concrete, ground-level, hurricane resistant relocatable buildings in two rows with a central corridor, covered with a metal roof that will connect to both the middle school building and via a new canopy to the old buildings. The intent is that the current portables will be removed. The target date for the completion of the new relocatable building project is August 1, 2008.

The university has also just completed a "fly over" of the roofs on campus, including those at ADHUS. Using infrared thermal imaging, it has been determined that the current roof condition is satisfactory and replacement is not currently required. This analysis provides the budget flexibility needed to initiate the relocatable building project.

## Running Club

Stay up-to-date with Running Club through the HomeworkHero page.

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The PTO will not have a meeting in December. Our next meeting is scheduled January 16, at 6:30 in the cafeteria. We hope you will plan to attend as we are preparing for the annual auction. We will cover current activities and review upcoming activities. Upcoming activities include the Annual PAL's basketball game between the Henderson faculty and the Boca police department, which is always a prime game to watch. The auction is also being developed, and we can use everyone's input. During the PTO meeting, we will also have a presentation by a professional organizer who will present ideas on better organizing your daily activities.

Your attendance and support is encouraged.

We truly thank all of the parents who assist us in making the many PTO activities a success. We look forward to the many upcoming events and look forward to seeing you there.

*Happy Holidays!*

Your 2007 – 2008 PTO Board of Directors

Lynette Williams, Krista Wagner,

Hank Ayotte & Carolyn Bethmann

## NURSE'S CORNER

### Foot Safety

**THE PROBLEM** Our Children's feet need protection **Before, During, and After** swim class.

**EFFECTS OF** Not wearing flip flops or swim shoes can be a hazard to your children's health.

### WHAT CAN PARENTS DO?

Parents can teach their children to **always** wear some type of footwear that will protect their feet. Acceptable types of footwear for Swim class would be flip/flops or swim shoes. Please help us make swim time Safe for Our Kids!

## FAUS, PTO 2007-2008 Calendar and Event Information

*(dates are tentative and subject to change)*

**DECEMBER 21:** Middle School Winter Celebration - A fun event for middle school students with D.J. and games. Volunteers needed to help set up, clean up, and chaperone.

**FEBRUARY 1:** Big Dog's Superbowl Breakfast for Kindergarten Dads - Help is needed to set up, serve, and clean up.

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

**APRIL TBA:** Silent Auction - The biggest fundraiser of the year! Committee people are needed to secure donations, plan evening, sell tickets, etc.

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

**MAY 5-9:** Teacher Appreciation Week - Work with Teacher Appreciation Committee to show teachers how much they are appreciated.

**MAY 8:** Mother's Day Breakfast for Kindergarten Moms - Help is needed to set up, serve, and clean up.

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child's holiday gift list, I also want to briefly remind you of the policy regarding cell phones. Cell phones are a great convenience, but they can create problems for students if used inappropriately. Phones are to be turned off as soon as they enter the campus, stored in their locker or bag for the day, and only turned on again when they reach the circles for pick up in the afternoon. If an emergency arises or if unusual circumstances occur, your child may get permission from a teacher or staff member to place a call to you in their presence. Cell phone availability during the day is limited due to intrusions and text messaging during classes and during tests and quizzes. Kids can be wonderfully creative! It is always good to review with your child the proper use of cell phones at school, whether they are getting a new one or already have one.

I want to thank all of you for the many ways you have added to the joy of the season and wish you the very happiest of holidays. May your time with family and friends be rich with laughter and love and the New Year bring many blessings.

All the Best,  
Marla Brady, Ed. D.

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# FAUS ADMISSIONS LOTTERY INFORMATION

Lottery application for enrollment opened on September 1, 2007 and will close on December 31, 2007

All ADHUS and FAU High School siblings as well as any new student seeking enrollment at FAUS must complete an on-line Lottery application in order to be considered for enrollment in the 2008-09 school year.

**There will be NO sibling enrollment form sent home during the school year. YOU MUST APPLY ELECTRONICALLY on our website**  
**[www.adhus.fau.edu](http://www.adhus.fau.edu)**

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## Middle School Reading Adventures

By Debra Vance Noelk, reading coach

With the holidays upon us and Winter Break just around the corner, now is the time to set aside time for regular reading. This means establishing a schedule that includes reading at least 3 to 4 days a week. We all know that practice makes perfect. And the more that students read, the better they will be at reading. By incorporating reading into your daily routine, you establish good habits and reinforce the importance of reading to your children.

Additionally, studies have shown that many students get tired before they finish taking standardized tests thus missing questions that they really know. The middle school teachers are working on developing 'stamina' so that students are able to make the correct choices throughout the entire test. You can help by encouraging your child to read for 40 – 50 minutes at a setting. Students need to learn to read for extended periods of time; and, again, the best way to do that is through practice, practice, practice.

So, by encouraging wide and REGULAR reading and using advanced vocabulary, you can assist your child in becoming the best reader, writer, and student he/she can be.

And, finally, the 6<sup>th</sup> and 7<sup>th</sup> grade students have taken the SRI test. If your child does not know his/her scores, please contact [dvance@fau.edu](mailto:dvance@fau.edu).

Happy Holidays to everyone!

### Family Fun Nights

Family Fun Nights, for Kindergarten through Fifth grade, were a great success. Mother Nature was once again 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. Thank you to all the parents and faculty who volunteered their time to help out. Your efforts made the events successful. Have a happy and safe Holiday.

## Points of Light

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

The lights of the holiday season are everywhere turning what is usually dark into beautiful points of light. The parent and guardian volunteers at our school create beautiful points of lights each and every day. Our days and nights are made brighter

by your presence. Your energy and enthusiasm, if it could be turned into electricity, could power many of the holiday lights that surround us this time of year.

Thank you to all the volunteers for a wonderful first part of the year. You have done so much and it is truly

appreciated by me, the PTO, the faculty, staff, Administration and most importantly, by your children. Enjoy the holiday lights and may they pro-

vide you with the warmth and beauty that this time of year is all about.

### Great Idea!

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

## HELP WANTED!

ALL COMMITTEES

Annual FAUS

Silent / Live

Auction

Contact the PTO Office

**561-297-0491**

## Annual Week of Giving

This Henderson tradition of sharing a new toy or unwrapped gift item for those less fortunate took place during the week of Dec. 3-7.

**Thanks for giving so generously! Happy Holidays!**

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