

**High School for Recording Arts  
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes  
Wednesday, June 3, 2009, 9:00 am**

All Board members present: Wayne Jennings, Layne Bellamy, Carei Thomas, Paula Anderson, and Darryl Young. Ex Officio and others: Education Director Bryan Rossi; David Ellis, Bonita Hughes, and Tony Simmons (via speaker phone) of Studio 4; Pam Young and Andrew Adelman of Designs for Learning

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise stated.

1. Call to order – the meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jennings, at 9:10 pm, with all members in attendance.
2. Approval of agenda – Thomas noted that HSRA supporter Douglas Kane wanted to address the Board; Jennings moved approval of the agenda with this addition; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.
3. Minutes – Bellamy moved approval of the Minutes of the April 22, 2009 Board meeting as presented; seconded by Young, and carried.
4. Financial updates (Hughes; Pam Young of Designs for Learning) – a Financial Report including Balance Sheet and Summary Income Statement through 4/30/09 were distributed, as was a revised FY2009 budget and proposed FY2010 budget
  - 2008-09 financial status – Young summarized the Financial Report. Operating deficit through April exceeds projected holdback by \$199,883, but other factors including higher-than-projected student count will reduce the size of the deficit. **Board discussed, after which Jennings moved receipt of financial report; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.** Hughes reviewed revised fiscal 2009 budget, with 215 students. This shows \$2,887,910 in revenues and \$2,974,858 in expenses for a total deficit of \$86,948. Actual student numbers have been 218-219. **After discussion, Jennings moved approval of revised budget noting the deficit will be covered by previous years' carryover funds; seconded by Thomas, and carried.**
  - 2009-10 budget proposal - Hughes reported, budget is quite similar to revised 2008-09 budget, with 215 students. There are additional Title I and special ed. ARRA funds. Board discussed, and identified two changes to presented budget: only one-half of Title I ARRA funds will be claimed in 2009-10 with the balance held over for 2010-11; and the technology equipment budget was reduced by \$10,000. This resulted in a budget with total revenues of \$2,909,483 and expenses of \$2,908,546 for a net increase in fund balance of \$937. Board discussed. Pam Young advised the Board, total fund balance was \$237,153 at the beginning of 2008-09. HSRA administration will examine expense-cutting measures this summer. **Jennings moved adoption of proposed budget including noted revisions; seconded by Young, and carried.** Also considered was a 2009-10 contract with Designs for Learning. Hughes reported, she has reviewed the contract and made some edits to reduce. Contract is somewhat reduced from last year. **Jennings moved authorizing administration to enter into a contract with Designs for Learning for 2009-10, not to exceed \$33,200; seconded by Thomas, and carried.** Hughes also reported, HSRA has just done a food service audit which went well; and there was a financial audit of the special education program. HSRA was the only charter school with 100% complete IEPs and completed evaluations.
5. Director's Report (Rossi / Ellis)
  - Enrollment update - Rossi reported, ADM is 223.16; HSRA continues to serve new students who want to enroll.
  - 2009-2010 school calendar – draft calendar was distributed; is similar to the 2008-09 year and includes 171 student contact days. First day is Sept. 8, last day June 17. Rossi reviewed schedule including summer 2009. **Anderson moved approval of the calendar for 2009-10, with the possibility for future modifications in conformance with state law; seconded by Young, and carried.** Board discussed number of days and length of day.
  - Comments from Douglas Kane – Thomas introduced Mr. Kane, who is with Minneapolis Television Network. Kane described MTN's work, and discussed with the Board possibilities for collaboration with HSRA.
  - Staffing updates – no changes since previous meeting. Rossi reported on an effort to maximize special ed. revenues, including early-intervention services which can apply to high school students (up to 15% of general-ed budget for early-intervention services for students who need extra help but have not yet qualified for special services). These funds will be used to support a pilot summer program; HSRA will

also consider hiring an extra staff person for special ed. students' transition, from high school to higher-ed or to work.

- Facility/property acquisition updates – Jennings reported, HSRA is signing documents to be sent to the IRS to establish a HSRA holding company, a new 501c3 that will operate the property for the school.
- Grant updates – there were none.

6. Development update – Simmons reported, State Farm has invited HSRA to apply for an interest-free \$1 million loan for the new school facility; he and Ellis have met with a State Farm rep to discuss potential terms. Board discussed. Is it not clear at this point whether HSRA or the building company would be the fiscal agent for purposes of the loan. Simmons and Ellis will continue working on this. **Anderson moved that the Board authorize the application to State Farm for an interest-free \$1M loan pending legal counsel's advice regarding the appropriate fiscal-agent; Bellamy seconded, and the motion carried.**

Simmons also reported, HSRA to have a golf tournament July 18, at Majestic Oaks Golf Course; doing this in collaboration with Randy Jenson from Lube Tech. HSRA also continues to be involved in the Click 4 Life project funded by State Farm; expects \$30-40,000 from this source for next year. Click 4 Life campaign was successful with passage of primary seatbelt law. One of HSRA students is a finalist for being part of State Farm's Youth Advisory Board which advises State Farm on service-learning projects around the country. **Jennings moved approval of this application; seconded by Anderson, and carried.**

Anderson reported, LubeTech wants to re-grant HSRA for next year though funds won't be available until next fall. Would continue to support the design project, and also to start a school website to market products. CES mentor-school program will end with termination of Gates Foundation support for this; final meeting will be in New Orleans later this month.

7. Board Committee reports
- School Improvement Committee – they met and generated draft school goals and measures for 2009-10, which were distributed via email in advance, and in hard-copy at the meeting. **Jennings moved adoption of the goals; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**
  - Parent Advisory Committee – social worker Tabitha Wheeler reported, the final parent meeting of the year, May 28, was a celebration of the year's accomplishments, with about 15 parents attending, and many students and community supporters. **Jennings moved recognition of HSRA's intent to apply for Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools funds, to continue to support Crisis Intervention Training for staff; seconded by Anderson, and carried.**
  - Technology updates - Terry Gray reported on technology updates including equipment purchased with e-rate funds; and planning for future technology improvements.
8. CharterSafe Insurance (Property/Casualty/Liability Insurance) - Hughes reported, HSRA switched property insurance from Berkley Administrators to R.J. Ammott Agency.
9. Board election planning for fall 2009 (two members' terms, Jennings and Young, run out fall 2009) – Adelman updated the Board on changes to the charter law which affect boards. Topic to be revisited at the August meeting.
10. Set schedule 2009-10 Board meetings – Jennings reviewed the schedule, which has been sent to the Board via email. All meetings are on Wednesdays, at 9:00 am. One date was changed, resulting in the following meeting dates: August 12; October 7 (Annual Meeting); December 9; February 17; April 21; and June 2. **Jennings moved approval of the meeting schedule, as amended; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**

11. Other business - there was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:15 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Andrew Adelman