

**High School for Recording Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 16, 2006, 11:00 am**

Board Members in attendance: Wayne Jennings, Layne Bellamy, Carei Thomas, and Darryl Young. Absent: Paula Anderson. Ex Officio and others: David Ellis, Anthony Simmons, Bonita Hughes, Bryan Rossi and David Kingsbury of Studio 4; SPPS charter schools liaison Mo Chang; Stephen Bosacker of Designs for Learning.

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise stated.

1. Call to order – the Chair, Wayne Jennings, called the meeting to order at 11:19 AM.
2. Approval of agenda – Jennings moved to approve the agenda as presented. Bellamy seconded. Carried.
3. Approve Minutes of May 31, 2006 Board meeting – Bellamy moved to approve minutes of May 31, 2006 as presented. Thomas seconded. Carried.
4. Financial updates (Hughes)
 - 2005-06 Financial updates – Ms. Hughes presented the most current financials for 2005-06; including Balance Sheet, and Vendor balances and checks for June. Profit and loss figures and budgets are through June 2006. The P&L shows a loss but this does not include the holdback funds from the state. Balance Sheet also is not final. Designs for Learning should be done in the next few weeks, preparing for audit. After discussion, Board took three actions:
 - **Bellamy moved to approve Designs for Learning to make electronic funds for payroll transfers (EFT) for HSRA. Thomas seconded. Carried.**
 - **Young moved to approve HLB Tautges as the auditor for HSRA for this year. Bellamy seconded. Carried.**
 - **Jennings moved to receive financial data presented by Hughes. Bellamy seconded. Carried.**
 - 2006-07 Financial updates – Ms. Hughes reported, Budget for 2006-2007 was approved previously, this information is being entered into Smart Finances for a clean start this next year.
5. Director's Report / 2006-07 enrollment / Staffing updates
 - Simmons reported, Paula Anderson has suffered a physical setback and hopes to be available to work at HSRA two days a week. Jennings suggested that the Board may want to find someone to help fill in her important role at the school and on the Board. Preparations for school year are going well. Ellis and Simmons traveled to D.C. to meet with some African American leaders. There is an opportunity for HSRA to present their program to some African American financiers and foundations in October to raise funding to improve and strengthen the program and to better measure and track school improvements. There is the possibility others could use this school model in other cities. Simmons and Ellis will revamp marketing materials and prepare to present to these funders. They hope to find a better facility as well. This is a joint effort with Studio 4. **Bellamy moved that the HSRA board approve seeking funds and partnerships with Studio 4 to improve the HSRA. Thomas seconded. Carried.**
 - Ellis and staff started a study and plan to improve the current facility. However, Metro Transportation wants to purchase this property for a bus and rail maintenance area; the owner has warned HSRA to look for a new facility. There is land and facility near Western and University Ave. that could be purchased. Staff have been studying the feasibility of this site. There are other community services in this neighborhood. The owner of this site plans to buy the land and develop the facility for HSRA, with option to purchase through a separate facility non-profit entity. If the owner does this, there is the possibility to include the Federal facilities grant toward this new project. Studio 4 would be a co-tenant in this facility.
 - Enrollment is 200 ADMs as of the last MARSS submission.
 - Staffing updates: Bryan Rossi is the new Studio 4 education program director. Simmons is now development director for the school, linking HSRA with these funders and other opportunities. All other staff have been retained.

6. Board Committee reports
 - School Improvement Committee – committee wants to find another way to solve student abhorrence of testing and satisfy state and federal requirements. They are also seeking ways to use portfolios more effectively, also inducting students effectively and assessing their skills and knowledge (plan to use MAP pre-assessment and HOPE Survey). The goal is to collect better data. Who will chair this is not clear yet.
 - Parent Advisory Committee – Bellamy reported, there has been low participation from parents. Parent nights have had good attendance, but only 2 parents have volunteered to do something with HSRA. During the parent meetings there is opportunity to get parent input and recruit those interested in participating more with the school. Tabitha Wheeler will continue to chair the parent involvement committee.
 - Technology updates – David Kingsbury reported, HSRA’s e-rate application for 2006-2007 is being reviewed. Telephone and internet access is requested. All information needed was provided to the authority. Credits are still there for last year. So the school is not paying full prices for phone and internet services. If there is a delay in receiving E-Rate there may be an increase. Currently Eschelon is ISP provider. Updates to HSRA Website are being planned to improve the school’s story. This will include student success stories. Other new enhancements are being created, such as online registration, staff improvements and etc. There is one office change related to technology – Layne will move to David’s office to manage security and security videos.
7. Review Wellness Policy – Hughes reported on work done with Bellamy and the caterer. They will review requirements for the policy and write the policy to present to the board. This is due prior to the opening of school in September.
8. Summer training & planning updates – Simmons reported, this summer has been especially productive. Theme is “From Good to Great”. Everyone has adopted the challenge to improve the school. Committees have been established to identify challenges and successes. Progress is being made on competency based graduation. The competencies are now on the computer, which students can access to plan, track and pursue. Simmons will give a development report to the Board each month. Ellis and Rossi will present the directors’ report each month.
9. Title IV (Safe and Drug Free Schools & Communities) program report – Bosacker reported, application for Title IV funds has been made. Board discussed need for a school nurse. Ms. Hughes will find a certified school nurse who will manage student health records.
10. Set dates for future Board meetings – After discussion, Board decided to meet. Tuesdays at 9:00 AM, every eight weeks. Board meeting dates were set for October 10, December 5, February 6, March 27, and June 5 (the Annual Meeting).
11. Other business – there was none.

Jennings moved to adjourn at 12:25 pm; Bellamy seconded, and the meeting was adjourned.