

**High School for Recording Arts
Board of Directors Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, August 20, 2008, 9:00 am
Annual Meeting**

Members in attendance: Wayne Jennings, Layne Bellamy (arrived during the first part of item #4), Paula Anderson, and Darryl Young. Absent: Carei Thomas
Ex Officio and others: Education Director Bryan Rossi; David Ellis, Bonita Hughes and Mike Guille of Studio 4; Pam Young and Andrew Adelman of Designs for Learning; Chanda Smith and Antonio Cardona of Pillsbury United Communities.

1. Call to order – the meeting was called to order by the Chair, Jennings, at 9:05. Jennings recognized a researcher from the University of Minnesota who was doing a study of charter school boards, examining communication and knowledge sharing process. Board members and the Education Director were asked to complete a survey.
2. Approval of agenda – the Agenda was approved as presented, by common consent.
3. Approve Minutes of June 11, 2008 Board meeting – Minutes were not ready but will be finalized by next meeting.
4. Annual Meeting items
 - Appoint Board Officers for 2008-09 – Jennings noted, no one is up for election this time as terms, of members elected a year ago, are either two or three years. Officers are annual positions, need to be chosen at the annual meeting. Anderson nominated Jennings for president of the Board; there were no further nominations. **Jennings was approved unanimously.** Young nominated Anderson for vice chair of the Board; there were no further nominations. **Anderson was approved unanimously.** Anderson nominated Young for Secretary-treasurer; there were no further nominations. **Young was approved unanimously.**
 - Clarify terms for current board members - Young and Jennings volunteered for the two year terms. Thomas, Anderson and Bellamy will have three-year terms. **Approved by common consent.**
 - Board Election Process (document previously circulated) – postponed to re-consider shortly before fall 2009 elections.
5. Financial updates (Hughes; Pam Young of Designs for Learning)
 - 2007-08 financial status - 2007-08 financial status - Pam Young distributed a Financial Report Summary as of June 30, 2008 (includes Summary Income Statement, Balance Sheet, May 2008 Electronic Transactions, Payment Register for May-June), and reviewed for the Board. Summary based on revised budget. Shows General Fund deficit of \$261,229, with 92% of revenue received and budgeted expenses as 112%. Budget is on a cash basis (doesn't include 2008-09 holdback payments, projected at \$243,000, or federal Title or special education funds). Also, budget was based on 200 students whereas actual ADM was approximately 208 for the year. After discussion, Jennings moved receipt of the financial report; seconded by Anderson, and carried.
 - 2007-08 audit status update – audit is scheduled for October 29-30; audit prep will be done prior to that.
 - 2008-09 draft budget – was approved at the previous meeting.
6. Contract with Designs for Learning - copies distributed. Jennings reviewed the contract for the Board. After discussion, **Anderson moved approval of the contract as presented; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**
7. Director's Report (Rossi / Ellis)
 - Enrollment update – Rossi reported, there are 39 students enrolled with completed paperwork; 171 expected to come back from last year. Good experience recruiting during the summer. Open House will be August 28, with food at 6:00. Believes the school will reach its target of 200 students enrolled, by then.
 - Minnesota High School League – item added – Rossi reported, a HSRA student wants to play soccer for a SPPS high school; HSRA would need to join the MN High School League to permit this. After discussion, **Anderson moved HSRA join the MN High School League, leaving individual student participation in particular sports to individual cases; seconded by Young, and carried.**
 - Staffing updates – Rossi reported, Mike Conway was hired as lead advisor as well as full time math teacher; Libby Harris as social studies teacher; Susan Kelly, contract psychologist (1 day/week); Opal

Singleton as project manager for grant-funded project (contract-hourly). Ray Devlin and Mandy Podhradsky resigned; Dan Neuwirth was terminated. **Jennings moved approval of staffing changes; seconded by Young, and carried.**

- Facility/property acquisition updates – Ellis reported, Studio4 is working with HighMark, has secured land, a 3-acre parcel in the Midway neighborhood (Hampden & Endicott) though the land still needs to be tested for pollutants. Has potential for new location for HSRA.
 - Grant update - Rossi reported on potential State Farm grant - they want to fund a grant project at \$61,000, to support a campaign for teen safe driving. Also, HSRA is officially a mentor school via the Coalition of Essential Schools, to mentor the HSRA-LA school (grant for \$45,000)
 - Q Comp application - Rossi reported, Q Comp would require 60% of additional compensation for teachers to be based on a norm-referenced test. He is inquiring as to the allowability of NWEA's MAP tests, which are now normed through grade 11. Will continue to work on with leadership to complete the application.
8. Development updates - Rossi updated the Board reported on plans for the 10-year anniversary celebration.
9. Board Committee reports
- School Improvement Committee; consider 2008-09 Performance Targets - proposed updated targets, emailed to Board in advance, were also distributed. Anderson reported, HSRA is developing a new reading program based on the book *Teaching reading to Black Adolescent Males*. Rossi reported, CBM's are being considered again for implementation this year. Adelman reported on MCA and MAP test results from 2007-08; Board reviewed 2008-09 Targets.
 - Parent Advisory Committee - Young reported, the expectation this year will be that every advisor makes a home visit to everyone in their advisory.
 - Technology updates - Mike Guille reported – HSRA still needs to wire learning floor; and will upgrade server connection (deciding between two companies to do this; cost will be less).
10. Board policy for consideration – Bullying (document previously circulated) – **Jennings moved approval of the policy as presented; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**
11. Pillsbury Affidavit - Jennings reported, this is for the change of sponsorship to Pillsbury United Communities – he has a letter to PUC from Commissioner Alice Seagren. **Jennings moved ratifying letter from MDE approving the change in sponsorship; seconded by Anderson, and carried.**
12. CharterSafe Insurance instead of MSBA - Rossi reported, this organization provides comparable insurance to MSBA for a lower cost. Bonita Hughes is to review and report on. After discussion, **Jennings moved authorizing administration to look into CharterSafe Insurance and make the change if in the best interest of the school; seconded by Young, and carried.**
13. EdVisions Coop Healthcare and payroll services – item tabled (Anderson reported, employees need to pay more under this plan).
14. Other business – there was none.

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Board reconvened briefly for recognition of service by security worker Keith Turnipseed, who was shot and killed in March. **Young moved to recognize and honor Keith and his service to the school. Seconded by Anderson, and carried.**