

**High School for Recording Arts
Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes - Tuesday, November 8, 2005, 9:00 am**

Board Members in attendance: Wayne Jennings, Layne Bellamy (arrived during item #5), Carei Thomas, and Darryl Young. Absent: Paula Anderson.

Ex Officio and others: David Ellis, Anthony Simmons, Bonita Hughes and David Kingsbury of Studio 4; consultants Andrew Adelman and Bryan Rossi.

Note: All votes were unanimous unless otherwise stated.

1. The meeting was called to order at 9:05 by Jennings.
2. Approval of agenda - approved by common consent.
3. Approve minutes of August 31, 2005 Board meeting – Minutes were approved as presented, by common consent.
4. Approve Minutes of October 10, 2005 Special Board meeting – Minutes were not available. Young reported, the meeting had to do with a disciplinary issue; HSRA attorney Paula Forbes attended, along with Anderson, Bellamy and Young from the Board, and Tony Simmons and David Ellis. Simmons agreed to check with Forbes on Minutes for the meeting.
5. Board election update – Simmons reported, nominations have been sent out and ballots will be prepared once the nominating process is complete. All members present expressed willingness to stand for election; Simmons reported Anderson was willing to serve another term as well. Ballots will be prepared in time for a parent event November 28. Annual Meeting items will be addressed at the next meeting, November 30.
6. Financial update - also report on clarification of licensed teacher/board makeup issue – Hughes distributed a Profit and Loss statement for the school year through October, and reported that the school is operating on-budget thus far this year. Have gotten prior-year holdback funds; net income including this is \$229,000. HSRA has received a Coalition of Essential Schools grant. Jennings requested a cashflow statement for future meetings, and occasional Board review of the Check Register. **Jennings moved the Board accept the financial report; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**
7. Director's Report / 2005-06 enrollment / Staffing updates (Anderson / Simmons) – Ellis updated the Board on HSRA events. Enrollment is 206 at present; and there is a waiting list. There will be a fundraiser December 8 featuring performing artist Mos' Def, fundraiser for the school's Africa trip, at The Quest, downtown Minneapolis. The trip will take place March 1-11. Howard Fuller from the Black Alliance for Educational Options will be visiting the school November 29, 5:30, on behalf of BAEO. Board also discussed College Awareness Performances project, for which HSRA has received a contract from the Office of Higher

Education; Rossi is working with a group of HSRA students to develop performances for middle school students to help them understand the importance of staying in school.

8. Board Committee reports

School Improvement Committee; review updated 2005-06 school goals & measures - Rossi distributed a School Improvement Plan report summarizing status of efforts, and reviewed it for the Board. Personal Learning Plans and weekly planners are being used better than ever before. Also, Adelman distributed an updated statement of HSRA Goals for 2005-06, including changes made per discussion at the August 31 Board meeting. Board discussed strategies for measuring success in terms of elements specific to HSRA, e.g. requiring all students to have a portfolio in order to graduate.

Parent Advisory Committee - a parent meeting was held recently, with good attendance.

Technology / e-rate update - David Kingsbury updated the Board on technology developments. There have been a number of challenges regarding email with a new mail server, but seem to have been fixed now. Fall technology purchases for HSRA have been completed; major items were six computers for Joe Gwin's advisory, two staff computers, new computers in pre-production area, two new laptops, printer, overhead projector. HSRA has applied for a Microsoft grant, for funds based on Microsoft's antitrust settlement with the state of Minnesota. HSRA's share of this is almost \$29,000, half to be used for software and half for hardware. Funds should be received shortly after Jan. 1.

9. 2004-05 Annual Report review (distributed electronically in advance of the meeting) – hardcopies of the report were distributed, and Adelman reviewed highlights for the Board. Board discussed strategies for ensuring that eligibility for free/reduced price school meals forms are completed by all students. **Jennings moved approval of the Annual Report as presented; seconded by Thomas, and carried.**
10. Review validation templates – postponed to the next meeting as Anderson was absent.
11. Overview of Student Rights and Responsibilities handbook (distributed to Board in advance) – Simmons reported, he reviewed the form with students; students are signing an acknowledgment that they have reviewed and understand their rights and responsibilities. Simmons Praised Paula Forbes for her work on this. **Bellamy moved acceptance of the Student Rights and responsibilities Handbook, seconded by Thomas, and carried.**
12. Other business – Board discussed a contract HSRA has won, with the Office of Higher Education grant (discussed in item #7). **Jennings moved approval of contract with OHE for the College Awareness Performances project; seconded by Bellamy, and carried.**

The meeting was adjourned at 10:20 am.