

Board of Directors of Wayside Schools
Meeting Minutes
August 22, 2019

John Troy called the meeting to order at 6:06 PM.

Board members present: John Troy, Glenda Ballard, David Shelly, David Dunn, Lillian Diaz Gray

Staff present: Ashlei Brittany, Meghan Jones, Matt Abbott, Susan Pommerening, Francisco Garcia, Bardo Montelongo, Lauren Besser, Marlo Schaar Kaskoto, Brian Clason, Tammy Underwood, Deroald Hopkins, and Hope Astor

Guests present: Sakshi Verma, Yeidie Montelongo, Mark Wentzel, Glynis Wentzel, Mary Rodriguez, Andrea Asbury, Jaritza Cupeles, Mariesther Flores, Kayla Orsak, Kristi Smithwich, Kiely Deen, Jennifer Kendall

Public Comments:

Yeidie Montelongo - 1) As a staff member and a parent, concerned about what Wayside is doing for safety in regards to gun violence/an intruder. The classroom doors do not lock from the inside. 2) For 6th grade, the classrooms are packed and there is not enough room to accommodate them. Concerned it creates safety concerns. 3) Lack of communication around salary raise. 4) Concerning the bilingual framework, this year there has been a lack of direction and how to best accommodate their scholars needs.

Mark Wentzel - Parent of Sophomore and 7th grader. Bringing attention to the crowding at the middle school.

Andrea Aspbury - 1) There have been a lot of parent questions around uniform policy at EPA. Can unbranded jumpers be worn over branded polo?

Jaritza Cupeles - Concern around the bilingual program as a bilingual teacher and a parent of two bilingual scholars. Do not have a bilingual framework/program in place, as required by TEA.

Meeting Minutes

July 18, 2019 board meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. David Dunn made the motion to approve the minutes. David Shelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda

John Troy presented the consent agenda:

- 1) Appoint a new Board Treasurer and made a recommendation for David Dunn.
- 2) Remove Wyatt Harper from the Finance committee and replace by David Dunn. Lillian Diaz Gray needs to resign as chair of the Fundraising Committee, but will remain as a member of the committee.
- 3) There is no new board member to elect as of 8/22/19.

Glenda Ballard made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Lillian Diaz Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer Report

Matt Abbott presented the dashboard that includes Enrollment and Attendance Review, Financial Strength, and Fundraising Summary.

John Troy stated that the committees need to dive into what is getting Wayside to the goals.

Meghan Jones provided a fundraising update. We have raised \$12,030 in FY20, which does not include \$1,500 in HEB gift cards. We will make 25 6-figure asks this year. We have currently qualified 6, identified 5 additional, and were told not this year by one of the qualified today. Meghan reviewed the characteristics of the best prospects. Additionally, we are going to start building out a "Giving Society".

Meghan suggestions to not hold a gala, and instead try a luncheon. John Troy asked or the committee to dive in before the next board meeting and come with a recommendation.

Discussion and possible action on Superintendent evaluation progress and Superintendent Contract for FY19-20 were tabled for Executive Session, as allowable by law.

Chief Academic Officer Report

Susan Pommerening reiterated the success with the Accountability Ratings. EPA and REAL received distinctions of academic growth by TEA (top 25%). Sci-Tech and REAL have been targeted by TEA for needing targeted support and improvement, despite significant growth. AMA will continue as a comprehensive school for one more year.

John Troy asked Susan Pommerening what reasonable growth moving forward is.

Susan Pommerening stated the goals are that each teacher with have a 10% increase in their scholars' performance, and for the district to go from a C to a B rating.

Discussion and possible action on Special Education Services was tabled for Executive Session, as allowable by law.

Chief Operations Officer

Deroald Hopkins addressed the June 30, 2019 Budget to Actual report, and that it is still projected numbers as the audit is not finalized. He reviewed the July 31, 2019 Budget to Actual report. With HB3, there were a lot of assumptions made so the budget was created based on the lack of complete information.

The amended proposed budget has been revised to a 2100 total enrollment rate. It has a proposed increase in salaries of 4% for 0-5 year teachers, 5% for 6+ year teachers, and 3% for all other staff with limited exclusion as listed in the budget amendment.

Deroald Hopkins stated we will still be going forth with a compensation study.

Deroald Hopkins pointed out that we got an A rating for Financials FIRST based on Fiscal Year 2018.

John Troy stated that enrollment will make the biggest impact to staff raises. We need to build recruitment as well as creating a place people want to stay with retention practices.

Francisco Garcia provided an enrollment update, addressing the capacity. We had a 12.5 attrition rate and increasing retention is crucial.

John Troy requested Francisco Garcia provide the statistics for scholars with us October 31, 2018 - how many were there, and how many are with us as of today?

David Dunn made a motion that the board adopt the 2019-2020 amended budget and that the motion includes the teacher salary schedule and salary changes. Glenda Ballard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 7:30 PM, David Dunn moved that the board exit open session and enter into Executive Session to discuss all items allowable by law. Lillian Diaz Gray seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:29 PM, David Dunn motioned that the board exit Executive Session and enter open session. David Shelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

David Shelly made the motion to notify the public that the board has concluded their 18-19 evaluation of the Superintendent and to award Matt Abbott a performance bonus of \$2,166.67 for hitting targets concerning Academic Performance, based on the agreement in his 18-19 contract. David Shelly also motioned to authorize John Troy to begin 19-20 contracting process (with the support of legal counsel) with Matt Abbott and bring back a draft for review and possible approval at the October board meeting. The contract is to include a 3% cost of living adjustment on top of Matt Abbott's base salary of \$115,000. Glenda Ballard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

At 8:32 PM, Lillian Diaz Gray moved to adjourn the meeting. David Dunn seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.