

Board of Directors of Wayside Schools
Meeting Minutes
January 23, 2020

John Troy called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

Board members present: John Troy, David Shelly, Noah Wittman, David Dunn, Stacy Erb, Glenda Ballard

Staff present: Matt Abbott, Susan Pommerening, Marcia Molinar, Bardo Montelongo, Hope Astor, Kiersten Howard, Lauren Whitfield, Tammy Underwood, Marlo Kaskoto, and Meghan Jones

Guests present: Karen Emery, Tom Sage and Sakshi Verma

Public Comments:

No public comment was given.

John Troy asked that a member of the board make a motion to enter Executive Session to consult with legal counsel, Tom Sage. Stacy Erb motioned to enter into Executive Session. Noah Whittman seconded the motion. There was a unanimous decision. Executive Session began at 6:02.

A motion to exit Executive Session was made by Glenda Ballard. The motion was seconded by David Dunn. Executive Session ended at 6:36 pm with a unanimous vote.

Open session was reentered at 6:36 pm.

No Action was taken as a result of deliberations in the Executive Session.

Meeting Minutes:

November 20, 2019 board meeting minutes were presented for review and approval. David Dunn made the motion to approve the minutes. Stacy Erb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda:

John Troy presented the consent agenda items as follows:

- a. Discussion and possible action on PreK Full-Day Waiver Resolution (Actionable)
- b. Discussion and possible action on updating Horizon Bank Signers (Actionable)
- c. Discussion and possible action on 2019 TAPR/Report Card Presentation (Actionable)
- d. Discussion and possible action on Matthew Childs Board Resignation (Actionable)
- e. Discussion and possible action on Emergency Operations Plan (Actionable)
- f. Discussion and possible action on Draft 2018-19 IRS Form 990 (Actionable)
- g. Acknowledgment of 2019 FIRST Hearing Held on December 13, 2019 (Informational)

Matt Abbott recommended that the board consider tabling the IRS Form 990 until a later meeting as the extension was filed in Nov. and it is due in May. The auditor is still completing the IRS form 990.

John asked the board if anything should come off the consent agenda for additional discussion and if they would like to table the IRS 990.

David Shelly made a motion to approve the consent agenda items as presented, labeling the IRS 990, therefore authorizing Wayside staff to:

- Submit the Pre-K Full Day Waiver Resolution and to meet all compliance requirements associated on behalf of the school board
- Submit to Horizon Bank updated a signer list adding Susan Pommerening and removing Deroald Hopkins on behalf of the board
- Present the TAPR and Federal Report Card to the board and make them available to the public per TEA Regulations
- To file for the record Mathew Child's board resignation
- Implement the required Emergency Operations Plan for Wayside Schools with board approval
- Table the 18-19 IRS Form 990 for a later meeting
- Present to the public an acknowledgment of 2019 FIRST Hearing

Glenda Ballard seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer Report

Matt Abbott presented the board dashboard for review and board discussion.

Meghan Jones presented to the board the fundraising and enrollment update.

Wayside's current enrollment was reported at 1988. Wayside has several KXAN commercials for recruiting for next year. Wayside is also participating in the Apply Austin citywide open house. In February Meghan will provide a more thorough report.

Meghan Jones then provided the board with an update on fundraising to date and upcoming activities. Wayside is conducting a number of meetings with individuals and has submitted a number of grants listed on the report.

Matt Abbott presented on the Draft 20-21 Academic Calendar. Matt recommended that the calendar not be passed until February to ensure alignment with other regional school districts. Matt shared that TEA is also rolling out guidance on the new year-round calendar initiative, which may impact the calendar in the future. John would like us to consider how the extended TEA calendar could impact teacher salary in the future, if TEA moves forward with a funding opportunity to match the extended year. No action was taken on this item, only discussion.

Discussion and possible action on the superintendent's evaluation was tabled until the Executive Session.

Chief Academic Officer Report

Susan Pommerening provided an Academic Report on Student Performance. She shared network data for the middle of the year (MOY) benchmarking/testing results for the network. The report focused on student growth which is how we would likely improve scores and accountability this year. Elementary principals are set up to surpass the growth that we achieved last year. This year all scholars and teachers know more clearly that growth is expected from everyone. In secondary, half of MOY tests were taken online with Interim Reports provided by TEA for the first time. Reports show that we are not far off

from what we need to score on STAAR to meet standard. After sharing this Susan stated that we still recognize that we have a lot of work to do. Susan Pommerening and campus leaders have broken up results on an individual scholar basis. Reteach plans are happening for all scholars that need additional support. Susan stated that we have lots of work to do but it is in very capable hands. Susan stated that she is so proud of the Middle School with their new intervention strategies in place. Susan projected that we will sustain our growth similar to how we did last year. Susan shared that letter grades earned will likely be earned on the basis of growth in 19-20.

Discussion and possible action concerning Special Education Services for specific scholar(s) was tabled until executive session.

Chief Operations Officer Report

Matt Abbott presented for board review, discussion and action a review of the statement of statement of activities as of 12/31/19 for FY20. Wayside is currently operating better than break even as of the middle of the year as detailed in the report. Wayside will continue to operate with tight controls on spending to continue to progress to a balanced budget based on actuals by the end of the year.

Matt Abbott presented Budget Amendment #2 to the board for consideration of adoption. The cuts that were made to the budget align with expenditures from the previous year and year to date actuals. The largest cut in the line item labeled instruction is mainly due to not backfilling non-essential non-direct instructional positions. Other cuts represent areas where the previous budget had over estimated expenses, which now could be reduced due to lower than expected actuals with half the year passed. This amendment is a mostly expense related amendment. In February or March the board will be brought back another amendment, focusing on both revenue and expenses as more information comes out from TEA.

Motion to approve the Budget Amendment #2 as presented was made by David Dunn. Stacy Erb seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action concerning specific personnel issues was tabled until executive session.

At 8:04 PM, Glenda Ballard made a motion to exit open session and enter into Executive Session to discuss all items allowable by law. Dave Shelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously. The board will take a five-minute break recess prior to starting executive session.

At 8:50 PM, David Dunn motioned that the board exit Executive Session and enter open session. Stacy Erb seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

No action was taken as a result of deliberations in the Executive Session.

At 8:51 PM, Noah Wittman moved to adjourn the meeting. David Shelly seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.