Minutes
Wayside Board Meeting
May 28, 2020
ZOOM Meeting 874 6494 2349
Password: Wayside

Board Members Present: John Troy, David Dunn, David Shelly, Glenda Ballard, Stacy Erb, Lillian Diaz-Grey, Noah Wittman

Staff Present: Matthew Abbot, Francisco Garcia, Halley Cade, Jessica Santos, Maritza Gladyn, Lauren Besser, Miranda Regalado, Susan Pommering, Marcia Molinar, Tammy Underwood, Marlo Kaskato, Hope Astor

Guests: Tiffany Creuzbaur, Karen Emery

John Troy Called Meeting to order at 6:05, Roll call to establish quorum, all board members present and accounted for.

Public Comment: Tiffany Creuzbaur, submitted in writing

1.) “It's important to ensure everyone's health, safety, and well-being...and I understand there are a lot of proposed solutions to resuming school in the Fall that are being considered. A year round calendar and more flexibility built into the school year all sound fine, but I'd like to offer some feedback about why I think it's a bad idea to consider a rotating part-time schooling for Wayside campuses: Employers are beginning to require people who have been teleworking to show up in-person again as restrictions are released. If children are going to be at home in the fall and/or coming into the classroom on a part-time basis, it will put their parents are a higher risk of losing their jobs or be unable to serve as their child's school needs to ensure they are learning on "grade-level". Job hours and school hours align for a reason. If one factor is mandating something different than the other, there will be a major imbalance that would be detrimental to the parents' employment, the enrollment numbers at Wayside schools, and ultimately to the scholar's learning. In addition, the children who have special needs, need their services/accommodations. The children who are at risk for neglect and abuse, need to be away from home. The children need to develop social/emotional learning from being in an environment
where they are learning and engaging with their peers...not a computer screen or just their parents/siblings all day long. The impacts from this short run of online learning will be felt. It'll be felt when the students aren't where they need to be in the fall, but if we continue it, it may be irreversible. If children are constantly rotating between two environments they will be "displaced' and that affects (especially disproportionately for at-risk students, special needs, and ESL) their ability to learn and perform academically. Technology is great, but it will NEVER replace what you learn from doing it and having your mind and body engaged in the "learning experience". Please consider a normal in-person school year but plan aggressively for online school if another spike in covid-19 or local mandates require it."

2.) "Please reconsider the messaging printed on marketing flyers that are mailed out or included in the Austin Statesmen. I read the recent flyer and it only included a quote similar to "By Austin Families for Austin Families" with contact information. How about the IB curriculum? How about it being tuition free? How about the smaller community being more tight-knit? How about the uniforms? How about the diversity? There are countless attributes that makes Wayside unique and special, and the flyer didn't mention any of those attributes that sets Wayside apart. Especially since most people aren't educated on the difference between their traditional public school (AISD) vs. a charter program and what makes them different. It was very disheartening to see the flyer more as a waste of financial investment than a return on investment for increased enrollments at Wayside schools. We need more enrollments, which leads to increased funding, and better services which attract more enrollments and retain teaching/support staff."

Meeting Minutes:
Noah Wittman made a motion to approve April 23, 2020 minutes, Lillian Diaz Gray seconds, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously

Consent Agenda:
Matthew Abbott presented the consent agenda items for approval.
- Note: DIP and HB3 Goal Setting for 20-21 asked to be tabled for time being to a later meeting
Authorization for Wayside to join the Electronic State Business Daily through the Comptroller’s Office

David Dunn asks a question about the cost of Joining the Electronic State Business Daily, Francisco Garcia clarifies cost at $100/year and presents savings of doing work electronically versus the statesman.

David Dunn moves to approve Joining the Electronic State Business Daily, Stacy Erb seconds, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously

Chief Executive Officer Update

Matthew Abbots presented:

1. Update School Operational Considerations for SY 20-21 due to COVID-19 and Resolution, Academic Calendar, and Board Resolution for Continuity of Payroll due to potential calendar change.

Work sessions to create strategy for opening, but waiting on TEA guidance to ensure Wayside School appropriately meets guidelines.

Marcia Molinar presented a summer school move to July Summer school will be provided remotely TEA resources for remote learning will be used, primarily paper based delivered to families in English and Spanish and books. 120 required hours for English Learners can be throughout the school year.

20-21 Academic Calendar modification due to COVID-19 and Resolution Concerning Continuation of Pay

Matthew Abbott presents two calendar options. Option 1 a calendar to begin August 12, 2020, reduce Fall and Spring Break each to 1 week. Option 2 a calendar to begin August 18, 2020, remove Fall Break and Spring Break would only be a week 1 week. Each calendar meets current requirements for needed school hour attendance.

Matt Abbott requested the board consider a motion to approve option 1 calendar to delay school by 2 weeks (August 12) and by making this motion to approve the continuity of payroll resolution and any paperwork needing to be submitted to TEA to approve the changes. The board would need to sign a resolution for continuity of payroll for the month of July to avoid a pay gap for staff due to the calendar change.
Glenda Ballard moves to approve the Option 1 calendar and the resolution for continuation of pay as presented by staff, Stacy Erb seconds, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously.

2. Board Dashboard Update
   No comments

3. Fundraising and Enrollment Update
   Fundraising presented by Jessica Santos
   The main focus currently in on the Facebook Live Event Digital Gala, Wayside Foundation received $30,000 grant in May and more grant applications are submitted and awaiting decisions.

   Enrollment presented by Halley Cade
   Applications are increasing and marketing budgets have moved to streaming ads which are having best engagement. Email campaign through IheartRadio and direct mails through Community Impact. Canvassing has begun and virtual events, meet the principals and more virtual events planned for summer. ACOMs calling through applicants and enrollment numbers are lower due to cancelled enrollment days. Retention numbers are very solid and each school is increasing focus on building community.

4. Wayside Strategic Planning Update
   Stacy Erb presents, continued work with Mission Capital and planning for Wayside School

5. Superintendent evaluation progress review -Tabled for Executive Session as allowed by law.

Chief Academic Officer Update

Susan Pommering Presents

1. May Academic Report on Student Performance
   We had more than 90 percent of our families participate in remote learning overall. There were weeks when participation dipped, but overall we are satisfied with participation considering the circumstances faced during COVID-19.

2. Special Education Services concerning specific student(s)
   No issues to discuss at this time.
Chief Operations Officer Update

1. Review Statement of Activities as of 4/30/2020

   David Dunn presents no new budget amendments at this time. Currently the budget is projected to be at break-even at the end of FY20. A budget amendment expected for the June meeting.

2. Discussion and possible action on SBA PPP Process, Loan Expenditures, and Reaffirmation of Statement of Need

   Matthew Abbott presents how PPP Loan has been used to date. Loan expenditures April is nearly $1,000,000 used on payroll and $12,000 on utilities. May will repeat this pattern. There is a 60 day forgiveness process for the PPP Loan that Wayside will begin in June once all of the funds are expended from the PPP.

   David Dunn makes motion to include reaffirmation of the statement of need in minutes for the PPP to ensure no layoffs and to stabilize the organization during COVID-19 as no other access to additional liquidity was possible through either refinancing existing debt or additional lines of credit with Horizon Bank. Lillian Gray seconds, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously.

3. Draft Budget for 20-21 SY

   David Dunn presents, budgeting taking a fiscally conservative approach of hold study enrollment and would be a break-even budget. Budget includes payroll reductions across the board at all sites and at the network office.

   In general the reductions in payroll are based on leaving currently open positions unfulfilled. No action was taken on this item.

4. Discussion and possible action concerning specific personnel issues - Tabled for Executive Session as allowed by law

Closed Session

Lillian Diaz Grey moved to exit public session and enter executive session, Glenda Ballard seconds 7:47pm, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously
John Troy asked for a motion to adjourn executive session to enter into a open session and exit executive session. Stacy Erb moved to exit executive session and enter open session, Lillian Diaz-Grey seconds 8:24 pm, roll call vote, motion passes unanimously.

No action was taken as a result of deliberations in executive session.

David Dunn moved to adjourn the meeting, David Shelly seconds motion. Roll call vote, the board approves to adjourn unanimously at 8:26 pm.