Board Members Present: David Dunn, Stacy Erb, Glenda Ballard, Katie Herbek, Noah Wittman, Jesus Becerra

Staff Members Present: Matt Abbott, Francisco Garcia, Jessica Santos, Susan Pommerening, Marcia Molinar, Enrique Burmeister, Kierstin Howard, Maritza Gladyn, Hope Astor, Tammy Underwood, Vanessa Ruiz

Guests: None

David Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:03 pm. Roll called to establish a quorum, and a quorum of board members were present and accounted for.

Public Comments: None

Meeting Minutes
Receive and approve Minutes from April 22, 2021
Stacy Erb moved to approve the minutes from April 22, 2021 Noah Wittman seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items
a. Approval to open and close all bank accounts necessary to successfully complete the 2021 bond refinancing with Wilmington Trust and Horizon Bank
c. Approval for joining Region 13/20 Benefits COOP and TSHBP COOP and Interlocal
d. Contracts requiring board action:
   Facility Related Requiring Competitive RPF -
   1) Asphalt and Layout Stripping
   2) High School Gym Flooring
   Knight Office Solutions for printing and copying services

David Dunn pulled item C for further discussion before voting

Glenda Ballard moved to approve the consent agenda with removal of item C for separate discussion, Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer Update
a. Discussion on item C from consent agenda, Approval for joining Region 13/20 Benefits COOP and TSHBP COOP and Interlocal
Matt Abbott presented that the current insurance program was to allow TRS ActiveCare insurance for staff, but there are better options now to better support schools. If we legally can, we will pursue the opportunity to potentially have better and more affordable insurance for staff after seeking counsel. If this is not an option, we will remain in TRS ActiveCare.
David Dunn opened the board discussion with the history of TRS ActiveCare program, which was originally to help smaller ISDs in 1997. It was created so that once a district opted in, you would not be allowed to opt out. There is a growing dissatisfaction with the quality and cost of the program. 50 districts and 1 charter school in Texas are participating in this alternative program.

David Dunn asked for a motion to authorize Wayside Schools to enter into a contract with Region 13/20 Benefits COOP and TSHBP COOP and Interlocal if it passes our legal compliance review.

Stacy Erb moved to authorize Wayside Schools to enter into a contract with Region 13/20 Benefits COOP and TSHBP COOP and Interlocal. Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Discussion and possible action on changes to School Operations for SY 20-21 and 21-22 due to COVID-19 including Waiver(s) and Resolution(s) for TEA and Local Policy Operations

Matt Abbott presented the plan to operate in-person with limited to remote learning as allowed by TEA and needed for vulnerable scholars and families. There have been very few Covid-19 cases since Spring Break, vaccination for stuff has stabilized between 85-87%, and there is work for a Covid clinic on campus. Dr. Escot had a final call and a takeaway that we are currently Stage 2 and Stage 1 is possible in the near future due to vaccination rates and studies of asymptomatic cases in young children. Governor and Executive orders will be followed as the law requires, such as no mask mandates after June 4th 2021. Health screening will most likely no longer be required, and physical barriers may also be removed in the near future or remain as tolerated by the community. Discussion around graduation celebration and ceremony.

c. Fundraising and Enrollment Update

Jessica Santos presented fundraising efforts and the shift to focus on marketing and enrollment efforts for 2021-2022 including large changes to our website. Current fundraising is around $240,000 from private donors and foundations as well as $140,000 from TEA grants.

Enrique Burmeister presented that 2020-2021 finished the year with 1861. We were stable with enrollment at the end of the year when, typically, we have a decline. Marketing includes website, Google ads, Univision ads, Facebook ads, South Austin school fair, Meet the Principal Tours in June and July, and Tuesday Tours. Canvassing efforts are in full swing, moving from after school to full time hours, a new text message campaign, and a postcard campaign in June.

David Dunn asked about potential Pre-K enrollment and targeting for this age group. Matt Abbott shared there are efforts to target this age group. We are preparing for a late summer rush and an August start date supports this.

d. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Performance Review

Tabled for Executive Session

Chief Academic Officer Update

a. May Academic Report and Action Plan

Marica Molinar shared about the new Pre-K curriculum that will be purchased. After research and a robust critiquing process, the decision was made to purchase Frog Street Curriculum from Frog Street Press. This program does a great job with involving family in the learning process and using digital materials.
Susan Pommerening presented a staffing update. There are currently 23 open positions from 64 principals are currently in hiring processes.

Susan Pommerening presented summer updates, including summer enrichment, training, teacher incentive allotment, new teacher academy and professional development, all in an effort to get ready for next school year.

Susan Pommerening presented that, in September, we will begin sending teachers to Reading Academy and will be sending 1st and 2nd grade teachers as data showed rising 1st and 2nd graders are behind due to the pandemic.

100% of seniors will graduate, 100% are accepted into 2/4 year universities, 54% will attend a 4 year university. College Retention efforts are in effect for current, future, and previous graduating classes.

b. Discussion and possible action on Special Education Services concerning specific student(s)
Nothing to present at Executive Session at this time

Sr. Director of Operations Update
a. Review Statement of Activities as of 4/30/2021
Fran Garcia presented that 83% of finances have been closed. The budget is looking to finish in the positive, and there may need to be one more amendment to ensure the budget finishes within the 10% range of projected expenses.

b. Discussion and possible action on ESSER II and III
Fran Garcia presented plans on how to use ESSER funds of 4.1 million dollars for ESSER III. For ESSER III, we will receive ⅔ of the funds up front to use over 2 years and a potential of a 3rd year carryover. One potential plan would be to give all staff a one time $1,500 stipend at the end of September. There are not currently full amounts and restrictions known for ESSER II. Wayside will need to submit a plan for funds, but they will be allowed to make amendments if and when needed.

Board discussion on ESSER funds and legislative requirements.

David Dunn asked for a motion to support leveraging a portion of the ESSER III funds to use as a retention and new hire bonus in the first quarter of the next fiscal year

Katie Herbek moved to support ESSER Funds to recruit and retain teachers, Glenda Ballard seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

c. Discussion and possible action on FY22 Teacher Pay Scale
Fran Garcia presented that no changes are recommended at this time but may change if enrollment increases. Matt Abbott clarified that the board may change this scale at any point. No Action was taken on this item.

d. Discussion and possible action on FY22 Budget
Fran Garcia presented the proposed 2022 Budget, based on a conservative 1950 scholar enrollment budget. This will be presented to the Finance committee one more time and presented to the board at the next meeting for approval. FTEs will be increased in the budget for cohorts where extra teachers will be needed, 2 at elementary levels and building pipeline by adding another PreK teacher at each elementary school.
Board discussion over budget and clarification of personnel and staff retention. No Action was taken on this item. Vote will be in June.

e. Financial Updates including but not limited to the PPP and Bond Refinancing
Fran Garcia presented Horizon bank has contacted Wayside about the PPP and paperwork was reviewed. It is likely we may need to submit additional paperwork or for a decision on the loan. Bond Refinancing resulted in $4.1 million savings over the next 5 years with the first year having the largest savings.

f. Discussion and possible action concerning specific personnel issues
Tabled for Executive Session

Closed Session:
David Dunn asked for a motion to exit public session and enter into Executive Session

Stacy Erb motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session and seconded by Katie Herbek, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Katie Herbek motioned to exit the executive session and enter into Public Session. Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn
David Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting

Glenda Ballard motioned to adjourn, Stacy Erb seconded, roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously

David Dunn adjourned the meeting at 7:57 pm.