

Wayside Board Meeting  
October 28, 2021 at 6:00 PM.  
Wayside: Eden Park Academy, 6215 Menchaca Road, Austin, TX 78745

Board Members Present: David Dunn, Glenda Ballard, Katie Herbek, Jesus Becerra (arrived at 6:20 p.m.)

Staff Members Physically Present: Matt Abbott, Francisco Garcia, Susan Pommerening

Staff Members/Public Virtually Present: Halley Cade, Gene Morales, Haylee Lavender, Vanessa Ruiz, Maria Zimmerle

David Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:07 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 September 23, 2021

Glenda Ballard moved to approve the minutes from September 23, 2021 with revisions. Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously. Jesus Becerra was not in attendance for the vote.

Consent Agenda Items

- a. Assignment of Board Treasurer - Jesus Becerra
- b. TEA Bilingual and ESL Exceptions and Waivers
- c. Contracts since the last board meeting
  - Austin Commercial Roofing Company

Matt Abbott presented consent agenda items to the Board President for consideration.

David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda.

Glenda Ballard made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously. Jesus Becerra was not in attendance for the vote.

Chief Executive Officer Update

**a. 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 that positive COVID-19 cases on campus have significantly decreased from the school's all-time high in September. Based on his calls with Austin Public Health, the community is expected to move to Stage 2 soon. However, we will continue to stay vigilant in our health protocols due to an expected severe flu season. Wayside will continue to facilitate staff and scholars to receive vaccines through on-site vaccine clinics.

Matt stated that a labor shortage has impacted the school. Wayside has a difficult time backfilling roles and hiring substitutes.

David Dunn asked about vaccines for 5-11 scholars. Wayside will offer the vaccine once approved but will need to have parents present for the vaccines.

David Dunn also asked about current litigation regarding mask mandates. Matt Abbott stated he is not aware of any definitive litigation at the moment that would change the current stance.

**b. Fundraising and Enrollment Update**

Matt Abbott stated that enrollment has stayed steady at 1650. Currently there are the same number of enrollments and withdrawals. Many withdrawals are related to moves and logistical issues.

Fundraising continues to be paused due to Jessica Santos' extended absence. Wayside plans to hire a new Fundraising Manager.

**c. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent compensation concerning receipt of one time COVID Retention Stipend for \$1,500 paid via ESSER III as paid to all other Wayside Staff in October 2021**

Matt Abbott stated that the retention stipend has been fulfilled to all Wayside staff as of Oct. 22. He stated that in order for him to get the same stipend it would take board action. David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the stipend. Jesus motioned to approve, Glenda Ballard seconded, and it passed unanimously.

**d. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Performance Review**

Tabled for Executive Session

**e. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Contract for SY 21-22 and 22-23**

Tabled until after executive session.

Chief Academic Officer Update

**a. October Academic Report and Action Plan**

Susan Pommerening presented about the school's 70/70 Wildly Important Win, including historical scores of the Common Assessments, and how scores have improved since the start of the 70/70 priority. Wayside had 7 teachers hit their 70/70 mark on Common Assessment A, and 23 teachers hit the mark (for a total of 26 assessments) on Common Assessment B. She said the initiative has increased excitement from teachers and she expects more teachers to hit the mark on the next assessment.

Susan presented current vacancies on the teaching staff and stated that the current labor shortage has made these positions difficult to fill.

**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. Statement of Activities as of 9/30/2021**

Francisco Garcia presented the statement of activities for September. Wayside has completed 25% of its fiscal year. He is monitoring health services and instructional leadership. He also expects transportation to pick up in the upcoming months, along with extracurricular activities as stipends will soon be paid. It will be important to monitor expenses in upcoming months to ensure they do not exceed incoming funds.

Jesus Becerra asked if there were current plans to expand transportation. Francisco stated that it has been discussed as an option to increase student enrollment and retention.

**b. Discussion and possible action on Financial Updates including but not limited to the FY21 Audit and 2021 FIRST Appeal**

Francisco stated that the school has not received notification about the status for the FIRST appeal.

He stated that he is in the final stages of the audit, and should have a preliminary draft at the next board meeting. The audit is on-track and should be completed on time.

**c. Discussion and possible action concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session)**

Nothing to discuss in Executive Session

Closed Session:

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

Katie Herbek motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session and seconded by Jesus Becerra, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously at 6:57pm.

At 8:50pm Jesus Becerra motioned to exit the executive session and enter into Public Session. Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to Public Session:

**Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Performance Review**

David Dunn announced to the public that the board had concluded the 20-21 Superintendent performance evaluation and have established the goals for the 21-22 school year for evaluation.

**Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Contract for SY 21-22 and 22-23**

David Dunn asked if there was a motion concerning the Superintendent contract for the next calendar year. Glenda Ballard moved that the Superintendent be offered a one year contract from the date of this meeting at the same pay rate as in 20-21, \$118,450.00. She further moved to authorize the board president or other board delegate, to work with legal counsel on behalf of the board to finalize and execute a contract with the Superintendent prior to the next board meeting. Katie Herbek seconded the motion, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Adjourn

David Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Katie Herbek motioned to adjourn, Glenda Ballard seconded, roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously

David Dunn adjourned the meeting at 8:59 pm.