

Wayside Board Meeting  
November 18, 2021 at 6:00 PM.

Wayside: Eden Park Academy, 6215 Menchaca Road, Austin, TX 78745

Board Members Present: David Dunn, Glenda Ballard, Katie Herbek (virtually), Jesus Becerra, Stacy Erb

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

Guests Physically Present: Elaine Candelas

Staff Members/Public Virtually Present: Halley Cade, Maritza Gladyn, Hope Astor, Maria Zimmerle, Kierstin Howard, Tammy Underwood, Estrella Amezola, Marlon Williams, Haylee Lavender, Karen Emery

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 October 28, 2021

Glenda Ballard moved to approve the minutes from October 28, 2021. Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

New Member

David Dunn introduced Elaine Candelas, prospective board member. Stacy Erb, who introduced Elaine to Wayside, provided background and character reference for Elaine.

David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda. Stacy Erb made a motion to approve the Elaine, Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote and the new member passed unanimously.

Discussion and possible action on FY21 Annual Financial Report (Audit) (pulled from Sr. Director of Operations Report)

Marlon Williams presented information on the audit (June 30, 2021).

He began by presenting background legal information regarding auditing standards. He went through the audit line items regarding expenditures and assets. He said our cash and equivalents and assets have increased. However our current assets have decreased due to depreciation. Wayside had approximately \$20M in total expenses, which resulted in \$768,000 in net assets.

Due to refinancing of bonds, Wayside lost \$1,088,377, which will be amortized over the life of the bond. However, it will be in a net positive spot in years to come due to lower interest rates.

Wayside's PPP loan was fully forgiven in July 2021, which will add over \$2.5M in revenue for FY22.

Marlon Williams presented prior period adjustment, which is a result of over-appreciation of assets.

Wayside spent less than budgeted in every department.

Marlon presented a significant deficiency, which is not material in nature, in internal control over financial reporting. David Dunn said that he is disappointed by this information, and he expected it to be fixed this year. Marlon said he's seen great improvements in the audit over the past three years.

Stacy Erb asked how Wayside will change its processes going forward. Marlon said our provider is starting a reconciliation process, but Wayside needs to take a more active ownership of the process. Matt Abbott said he will be meeting with the provider (CSS) after Thanksgiving break regarding their work.

David Dunn asked for a motion to accept the audit, with caveat that there are no material changes.

Glenda Ballard made a motion to approve the audit, Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Consent Agenda Items

- a. AMA Targeted Improvement Plan
- b. 2021 Governance Reporting Form
- c. 2021 FIRST Rating of an 89 - Above Standard (FY 20 Data) and Annual Financial Disclosures
- d. TEA Special Education Policy Update for Compliance
- e. Contracts since the last board meeting
  - Gallup Q12 Survey Tool
  - Facility Use Agreement between Wayside Schools and halfHelen

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

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

Stacy Erb made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Chief Executive Officer Update

**a. Discussion and possible action on appointment of New Board Member: Elaine Candelas**  
(presented at start of meeting)

**b. Discussion and possible action on changes to 21- 22 Academic Calendar -  
Adding Feb. 22 as a Scholar Holiday and Staff Inservice Day via TEA Waiver**

Matt Abbott stated that President's Day is a current school holiday. He would like to make the following day a staff PD day (Feb. 22) in order to allow 60 Wayside staff members to attend an offsite training. It would be a waiver day and scholars would not need to make up the day, and Wayside would still receive funding.

David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the calendar change.

Jesus Becerra made a motion to approve the change, Katie Herbek seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

**c. Discussion and possible action on changes to School Operations for 2021-22 due to COVID-19 including Waiver(s) and Resolution(s) for TEA and Local Policies for Operations**

Matt presented that Wayside continues to be affected by a labor shortage and inability to backfill roles. Sub shortage still exists, but we've recently increased pay.

This week, Eden Park Academy has seen 10 COVID-19 cases. As a result, Austin Public Health recommended shutting down the 3rd grade classrooms for 2 weeks. Most of this time will be over Thanksgiving break. This is Wayside's first instance of known community spread. Haylee Lavender, principal of EPA, presented that many of the cases were asymptomatic but were found due to widespread testing at the school.

David Dunn asked about vaccinations for children. Currently, Wayside has communicated rules regarding absences to get a vaccination to families. However, Matt stated that the city has not seen a large number of children receiving vaccinations. Maritza Gladyn stated that she is waiting for APH to give clearance for Wayside to host a vaccine clinic for children.

**d. Fundraising and Enrollment Update**

Matt Abbott stated that enrollment has launched for the 22-23 school year. Enrollment has been steady with same number of entries and withdrawals. He stated that the recruitment team is currently working on a phone campaign to find referrals and get parent feedback. Maritza said her team has surveyed 75 families this week.

Matt also stated that he received an initial messaging audit from Snackbar, a local marketing firm.

**e. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Performance Review (Executive Session)**

Tabled for Executive Session

Chief Academic Officer Update

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

Susan Pommerening presented the November academic report. STHS took common assessment C ahead of the other schools, and showed improvement. She stated that SPED teachers will be included in 70/70 going forward. All English teachers and the science teacher at STHS hit their 70/70 mark.

Wayside recently surveyed families about free afterschool programming, and parents overwhelmingly said they would like the option. It would increase retention and help scholars academically.

**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 10/30/2021**

Francisco Garcia presented the October statement of activities. 33% of fiscal year has been completed. He said that budgets are trending in the right direction. However, he is monitoring data processing, which is at 55% spent.

**b. Discussion and possible action on FY21 Annual Financial Report (Audit)**

(presented at start of meeting)

**c. Discussion and possible action on Financial Updates**

Nothing to discuss

**d. 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.

Stacy Erb motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session and seconded by Glenda Ballard, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously at 7:37pm.

At 8:35 p.m. Jesus Becerra motioned to exit the executive session and enter into Public Session. Stacy Erb seconded, roll call vote and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to Public Session:

Adjourn

David Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Glenda Ballard motioned to adjourn, Jesus Becerra seconded, roll call vote, the motion passed unanimously

David Dunn adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.