

Wayside Board Meeting
September 22, 2022 at 6:00 PM.
Wayside: Eden Park Academy, 6215 Menchaca Road, Austin, TX 78745

Board Members Physically Present: David Dunn, Stacy Erb, Glenda Ballard, Jesus Becerra, Elaine Candelas (arrived after start at 6:15pm but was in attendance for all votes), Meredith Sembello

Staff Members Physically Present: Matt Abbott, Elizabeth Wrona, Susan Pommerening, Maritza Glaydn

Staff Members/Public Virtually Present: Halley Cade, Haylee Lavender, Kierstin Howard, Melinda Gardner, Elizabeth Zimmermann, Gabriel Vazquez, Marissa Castanon-Hernandez, Marcia Molinar, Estrella Amezola, Choi Hicks, Lauren Scott, Vanessa Ruiz, Jackie Hernandez

David Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:08 pm. Roll called to establish a quorum, and a quorum of board members were present and accounted for.

Scholar and School Feature - Gabriel Vazquez, music teacher at EPA, shared about his program and how his scholars are reading and performing music by 5th grade.

Public Comments:

Marissa Castanon-Hernandez, Teacher at Wayside STMS: Shared that she has not heard any updates for the Board members or Superintendent since the last board meeting regarding safety. She shared further that she has concerns about a lack of an intercom system at STMS that is not reliant on the phones and suggested getting tarps in the back to cover the fences so that the homeless in the area can not be seen by the scholars and the scholars may feel safer.

Meeting Minutes

Receive and approve Minutes from August 25, 2022

David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Stacy Erb moved to approve the minutes from August 25, 2022. Meredith Sembello seconded the motion, roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items

- a. 2022-23 COVID-19 School Health Support Grant (allocation and planned use of funds)
- b. 2022-23 DIP, approval for the year
- c. Wayside's New Federal Procurement Micro-Purchase Threshold (\$50,000)
- d. Contracts since the last board meeting:
 - Austin Achieve - Transportation
 - Harris School Solutions
 - Lacey Smithers - SPED Services Consultant

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

Glenda Ballard made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Elaine Candelas seconded, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer Update

a. Changes to School Operations for 2022-23 due to COVID-19 including Waiver(s) and Resolution(s) for TEA and Local Policies for Operations

Matt Abbott explained to the board that there are cases of COVID that are isolated incidents in the staff that are not related to the schools. There was one class/gradelevel at AMA that was borderline on closing. They sought guidance on closing the class from APH and based on the feedback decided not to close the class.

b. Fundraising and Enrollment Update for FY 23

Matt Abbott introduced the new Senior Director of Development Elizabeth Wrona. Elizabeth Wrona is creating an annual development plan, and a master grants schedule. Matt Abbott and Elizabeth Wrona have decided to hold off on a second hire at this time to support development.

Maritza Glaydn shared that we are 1658 scholars enrolled at this time. Wayside has had over 450 new enrollments so far this year. There are 50 applications that are currently pending or in the process of enrollment. Maritza shared the plans that the enrollment team has for hosting a mum making clinic this year for homecoming at STHS. This month the enrollment team purchased the items for the mums and is using it as a fundraising for the high school cheer team. Maritza shared that the enrollment team has been calling no-show and asking the reason that they did not come back to Wayside a report is to follow next month. Maritza shared that more scholars are using transportation this year not just for the shuttle between campuses but also for the community stops.

c. Wayside Schools 10-year Charter Renewal Update and Review of Process

Matt Abbott explained that Wayside Schools' Charter is up for renewal this year. The new renewal is for an additional 10 years and the deadline for renewal application to be submitted is December 1, 2022 to TEA. The new charter contract when renewed would start July 1, 2023. Matt Abbott, Francisco Garcia, and Susan Pommerening will be bringing a number of items to the board and committee meetings for review during this process in order to meet the December 1 deadline. The board will review and sign off on all that Wayside Schools submits to TEA for Renewal.

d. Discussion and possible action on Superintendent Performance Review
(Tabled for Executive Session)

Chief Academic Officer Update

a. September Academic Report and Action Plan

Susan Pommerening presented that Wayside Schools is preparing for STARR 2.0. The entire test is changing and so is how it is evaluating the schools. She provided an overview of the material on STAAR 2.0 provided by TEA. There are new English Language Arts assessments that she went through in detail. Susan then shared all current teacher vacancies, most of which are at STMS and STHS. Susan then shared that Wayside received the Strategic Compensation Grants for 3 years and the intention of the program. The full report can be found in the CAO folder.

b. Special Education Services concerning specific student(s)
Nothing to discuss at this time.

Chief Operations Officer Update

a. Statement of Activities as of 8/31/22

Matt Abbott presented the Statement of Activities for Fransico Gracia who was missing the meeting. A full copy can be found in the board folder. Matt Abbott shared with the board that expenses were tracking as expected and that the net loss that is currently showing was due to the start up costs of the year and the downloads of revenue lagging expenses. This is all to do with timing and will align in the October Board Report.

b. FY22 Independent Audit Update

Jackie Hernandez from CSS shared with the board the process of the audit and gave an update. Staff will be given the draft audit in October and it will be presented to the finance committee. The Audit will be brought to the board for approval in November.

c. School Safety Audit and Actions Since Last Meeting

Matt Abbott presented that the School Safety committee met after the last board meeting. Wayside also submitted the safety audit to TEA. Matt Abbott met with Jesus Becerra and Meredith Sembello after the last board meeting to discuss the next steps since last meeting and has been working to contact all concerned members of the public from the last board meeting. Matt Shared that all elements identified in the satey audit or by the committee has been put into place or are in procurement. Matt will continue to work with Jesus and Meredith evaluate the need for and effectuate at the disccression of the board a additional community safety committee.

d. Updates Concerning Changes in Food Service Provider and Bussing

Matt Abbott presented that there is an increase in participation with this new food vendor, but there have aslo been significant challenges concerning logistics and staffing with the new vendor. It is likely tat Wayside will need to enter into a full procurement process going into the 23-24 school year to either re-up with the current vendor or choose another.

Matt Abbott shared that there will be specific data on ridership next month at the board meeting. There are hiccups that are being worked, through but it is going smoothly currently.

e. Concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session)

Closed Session:

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

Jesus Becerra motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session and seconded by Merethdith Sembello, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously at 7:55 p.m.

At 9:30 pm David Dunn asked for a motion to exit the Executive Session.

Stacy Erb motioned to exit the executive session and enter into Public Session. Jesus Becerra seconded, a roll call vote is taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to Public Session:

No discussion in the executive session requires action in the public session.

Adjourn

David Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

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

David Dunn adjourned the meeting at 9:33 p.m.