

Wayside Board Meeting Minutes

February 22, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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

Board Members Physically Present: Jesus Becerra, Elaine Candelas, David Dunn, Nicole Trevino, Meredith Sembello

Board Members Virtually Present: Cynthia Gonzales

Staff Members Physically Present: Matt Abbott, Marcia Molinar Susan Pommerening, Elizabeth Wrona, Elizabeth Zimmermann, Kiersten Howard, Francisco Garcia, Melinda Gardner, Choi Hicks, Mary Rogergiz, Luis Sosa,

Staff Members/Public Virtually Present: Miranda Regalado, Jason Engel, Clint Wish, Halley Cade, Ana Hester, Jasmine Guerrero, Alferdo Garcia

Public Physically Present: Jessica De Leon, Alegria De Leon

David Dunn called the meeting to order at 6:14 pm. Roll called to establish a quorum, and a quorum of board members were present and accounted for.

Scholar and School Feature – Peer Forward Experience at STHS and STMS Boys Basketball

STMS Boys Basketball: achieved an undefeated season. Wayside had the privilege of hosting the first round of the playoff, during which they secured a victory over Harmony by a 20-point margin.

Peer Forward: Alegria De Leon, a senior at STHS, has been a student at Wayside since 1st grade. Alegria presented about Peer Forward. She is actively involved in the newly established Peer Forward group at STHS, serving as the outreach coordinator. The Peer Forward group has provided valuable assistance to the senior class in their college application process, facilitating applications to four different colleges. The main objective of the Peer Forward group is to promote college awareness among students and offer support throughout the college application process.

Public Comments:

Jessica De Leon: She is the parent of scholars attending three different Wayside campuses. She discussed the calendar for the 2024-2025 school year. In the past, Wayside followed a year-round schedule with a two-week spring break and a two-week fall break. She is interested in knowing when Wayside plans to return to this year-round schedule.

Ana Hester: Ana has had conversation with the staff regarding the reinstatement of the two-week spring break and two-week fall break. She is seeking information on the necessary procedures to implement this change.

Jason Engel: As a parent of a student at AMA, he expressed the importance of transitioning to a year-round calendar. This aspect was of particular interest to him when considering sending his child to Wayside. He inquired about the Board Tour of the AMA campus and the transition of the four classes. However, it was noted that the discussion regarding this transition is not on the agenda and is prohibited by law from being addressed as it was not previously scheduled.

Meeting Minutes

Receive and approve Minutes from January 25,2024 .

David Dunn asked for a motion to approve the minutes.

Jesus Becerra moved to approve the minutes from January 25,2024. Elaine Candelas seconded the motion, roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Consent Agenda Items

a. a. Consent Items:

- TEA Annual Reporting for 2022-2023 using TAPR Data
- TEA Chaplin Policy and Resolution

b. Contracts since the last board meeting:

- College Summit, ICN. DRA PeerForward-STHS
- La Pera Catering- Board/Fundraising Retreat
- Maxim Healthcare Staff-SPED
- Region 13- TIL Coaching
- Solid IT Network-Technology

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

Jesus Becerra made a motion to approve the consent agenda, Nicole Trevino seconded, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Chief Executive Officer Update

a. 24-25 Academic Calendar

Matt Abbott discussed the proposed 24-25 Academic Calendar Draft. The calendar includes 175 days of scholar instruction, 187 teacher days, and 220 administrative days. Beginning on August 6 would allow for a two-week buffer before the start of the school year for Austin Independent School District (AISD). It was noted that the conference day is scheduled for the day after Halloween, as it typically has lower attendance. The calendar also includes a standard weeks for Thanksgiving break and winter break. The objective is to incorporate one day off each month into the calendar. Matt touched on the topic of the year-round school calendar. Wayside School made the decision to transition to a year-round calendar prior to the COVID-19 pandemic to combat the "summer slide." However, in 2020, Wayside switched back to a traditional calendar to accommodate scholar enrollment during the pandemic. It was emphasized that the end of July and beginning of August are crucial times for enrolling scholars, and the Talent Team utilized this period last year to fill positions. It was noted that this timeframe is also necessary for filling positions in the upcoming academic year.

Elaine Candelas made a motion to adopt the 24-25 Academic Calendar draft and to form a committee to explore alternative calendars for the 24-25 Calendar, Meredith Sembello seconded, roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

b. Fundraising and Enrollment Update for FY 24

Elizabeth Wrona discussed fundraising efforts at Wayside. She mentioned that grants have been applied for, including the Education Impact Fund (a multiyear grant), Blue Cross (a

single year grant), and Long Foundation (a single year grant). It is important for Wayside to be aware that updates regarding the Blue Cross and Long Foundation grants are expected in June.

Maritza Glaydn provided an update on current enrollment figures, which currently stand at 1750 students. There are currently 22 new active applications for the current academic year. The Enrollment Team received 198 applications for the upcoming academic year. Withdrawals primarily consist of scholars who are relocating out of state.

- c. School Safety Updates and Possible Actions and Resolution(s) for HB 3 Compliance/School Safety

TEA Intruder audits have been successfully completed for the year, with all campuses achieving perfect scores of 100%.

- d. 23/24 Superintendent Performance Review and Monitoring (Executive Session)

Tabled for Executive Session

Chief Academic Officer Update

- a. February Academic Report and Action Plan

Susan Pommerening presented the February Academic Report, focusing on the Board Outcome goal of College/Career/Military Readiness. The target for 2022 was set at 58%, which was achieved through performance on the ACT and attaining a score of 4 on the IB Test. Adjustments were made to the scoring criteria in alignment with House Bill 3 requirements.

A full report can be found in the Chief Academic Officer board folder.

- b. Special Education Services concerning specific student(s) (Executive Session)

Nothing was discussed on this item.

Chief Talent Officer Update

- a. February Talent Report

Marcia Molinar presented the Chief Talent Officer report. The Talent team is currently developing a new plan and will be communicating the revised process to principals and the talent team soon. The board is to expect a full report on Talent at the next board meeting.

- b. Concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session)

Tabled for Executive Session

Chief Operating Officer Update

a. Statement of Activities as of 1/31/2024

Francisco Garcia provided an update on the Statement of Activities during the meeting. Currently, the budget is 58% complete, with revenue tracking at 55.8% and expenses at 57.4%. It is expected that the budget will align with the board-approved plan.

b. Update on FY24 Budget and Teacher Pay Scale Process for 2024-25

Francisco Garcia presented on the FY24 Preliminary Budget and Teacher Compensation Pay Scale. Wayside is collaborating with CSS to ensure that the budget is built based on 1970 scholars. The updated teacher pay scale to be presented at the next board meeting for the 24/25 school year will aim to incorporate a 3% cost of living adjustment, if resources allow.

c. Concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session)

Tabled For Executive Session

Closed Session:

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

Jesus motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session and seconded by Meredith seconds, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously at 7:51 p.m.

At 9:10 pm David Dunn asked for a motion to exit the Executive Session.

Meredith Sembello motioned to exit the executive session and enter into Public Session. Elaine Candelas seconded, a roll call vote is taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Return to Public Session:

No action was taken in the public session as the result of any discussion in the executive session.

Adjourn

David Dunn asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 9:14 p.m.

Jesus Berrca motioned to adjourn, Elaine Candelas seconded, a roll call vote is taken, the motion passed unanimously.

David Dunn adjourned the meeting at 9:15 pm