

## Wayside Board Meeting Minutes

November 21, 2024 at 6:00 PM.

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

Board Members Physically Present: Elaine Candelas, Meredith Sembello, Dr. Nicole Trevino, and Dr. Ruth Reinhart, Cynthia, Jesus

Board Members Virtually Present: David Dunn

Board Members Absent: Paul Duchene

Leadership Staff Members Physically Present: Matt Abbott, Marcia Molinar, Susan Pommerening, Francisco Garcia, Haylee Lavender, and Dawn Fair

Staff Members/Public Virtually Present: Liz Wrona, Clint Wise, Karlie Rameriz, Maritza Gladyn, all principals and Miranda Regalado

Public Physically Present: None

Elaine Candelas called the meeting to order at 6:06 pm. Roll called to establish a quorum, and a quorum of board members were present and accounted for.

### Scholar and School Feature

Cross Country State Meet Recap, Meet the Runners - Valintin Rosas and Felix Gonzales shared their experience at State and received praise from the school board for their achievements.

### Public Comments:

Diane McGuire (EPA neighbor): She shared that there were some serious traffic concerns at the rear exit of the Wayside: Eden Park Academy that are impacting the safety of the entire neighborhood and especially her and her neighbors. Her concerns are with speeding, blocking her drive, rudeness and families entering the school in the wrong direction. She wanted to make the board aware of it and asked for it to be addressed.

### Meeting Minutes

Receive and approve Minutes from August 24, 2024 regular board meeting.

- Tabled until the next regular meeting

### Consent Agenda Items

- Bilingual Exceptions and Waivers file for 24-25 SY
- 24-25 Governance Report Submission to TEA

Consent to be approved contracts since the last board meeting:

- Tiffany Williams - Independent Contractor Agreement for Math Tutoring

Elaine Candelas asked for a motion to approve the remaining consent agenda items and the item discussed.

Meredith Sembello made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented, Jesus Becerra seconded, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

#### Chief Executive Officer Update

Chief Executive Officer Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on:

Appointment of Advocacy Point Person for Legislative Session:

Matt Abbott, presented the need to appoint a board liaison for advocacy. David Dunn explained the role. Jesus Becerra nominated himself for the role.

Cynthia Gonzalez made a motion to approve Jesus Becerra be named the Advocacy Liaison for the Wayside Schools Board for the 2025 legislative session, Elaine Candelas seconded, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

Fundraising Update:

Liz Wrona did a presentation of the information in the board folder concerning fundraising to date featuring the major programs like grant writing and the spring gala. No action was needed on this item as it was informational.

School Safety Updates and Possible Actions and Resolution(s) for HB 3 Compliance/School Safety Update:

Clint Wise notified the School Board that TEA has identified Wayside Schools for a District Vulnerability Assessment (DVA), which includes an onsite facility and document audit in May of 2025. He shared the major elements and provided clarity around the process.

Superintendent Performance Review and Monitoring (Executive Session):

This item was tabled for the executive session.

#### Chief Academic Officer Update

November Academic Report and Action Plan:

Susan Pommerening presented information for her November Academic Report and Action Plan focusing on the results on Common Assessment B. Common Assessment C will be completed shortly and will be a "Mock STAAR". She shared that the results of Common Assessment C will be very important for seeing where campuses are in the middle of the year in STAAR preparedness. She will have a full presentation in January. She shared areas of concern and excitement as we concluded the first 9 weeks of school as listed in her report in the board folder.

Special Education Services concerning specific student(s):

Item not discussed and no action taken on this item.

#### Chief Talent Officer Update

Chief Talent Officer Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on:

November Talent Report:

Marcia Molinar shared a presentation on the current status of hiring, staff retention and turnover and special programs. Her presentation details are available in the board materials for this month. No action was taken on this item.

Concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session)

- No action taken on this item

#### Chief Operating Officer Update

Chief Operations Officer Update, Discussion, and Possible Action on:

24-25 Enrollment:

Karlie Ramirez presented on current enrollment trends and activities stating that enrollment is hovering around 1,800 scholars, which continues to be up from last school year, but under the 1900 target that we were planning on. Enrollment continues to backfill openings and enrollment.

Statement of Activities as of 10.31.24:

Francisco Garcia reviewed the statement of activities as provided in the board materials. Wayside currently operates in a small deficit due to serving fewer students than originally budgeted for, but shared that budget reduction strategies have already begun to right size the budget as compared to expected revenues to achieve a balanced budget and minimize the risk of a larger deficit. Francisco further shared that the board will need to amend its FY25 operational budget midyear to match with the expected revenues of an enrollment of around 1800, not the 1900 originally planned for. This will be done at a later meeting. No action was taken on this item.

FY 24 Audit presentation:

Francisco Garcia introduced the Shawana Spann from McConnell Jones, the school's external financial auditor to present the FY24 Audit. The Auditor presented the audited financials from FY24 stating that there were no findings and that it was a clean audit free of material weaknesses or deficiencies. This statement is true for the organization as a whole and for the purpose of single audit.

Having heard the presentation, Francisco Garcia asked the board members if they would consider a motion to approve the FY 24 Audit as presented by Shawana Spann from McConnell Jones.

Jesus Becerra made a motion to approve FY 24 Audit as presented by Shawana Spann from McConnell Jones as presented, David Dunn seconded, a roll call vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

FY 25 Budget Amendment Update:

- Not discussed, table until a later meeting.

Concerning specific personnel issues (Executive Session):

Tabled for Executive Session.

Closed Session:

At 8:05pm, Elaine Candelas asked for a motion to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session to discuss the Superintendent's evaluation and other matters as allowable by law.

Cynthia Gonzalez motioned to exit the public session and enter into Executive Session, seconded by Dr. Ruth Reinhart, a roll call vote was taken, and the motion passed unanimously.

At 8:40 pm Elaine Candelas asked for a motion to exit the Executive Session.

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

Return to Public Session:

No actions need to be taken as a result of the deliberations in the Executive Session.

Adjourn

Elaine Candelas asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m.

Dr. Nicole Trevino motioned to adjourn, Dr. Ruth Reinhart seconded, a roll call vote was taken, the motion passed unanimously.

Elaine Candelas adjourned the meeting at 8:46 pm