Entheos Academy Board Meeting Minutes
Apr 22, 2021  7:00 pm

Magna Entheos Campus and by Zoom
2606 S. 7200 W. Magna, UT 84044
https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86223661224?pwd=d1N0bTJjTjJDMlBRc1VaMy9qN0grQT09
Meeting ID: 862 2366 1224
Passcode: LRN2222

Opening
I. Roll Call
   b. Board Members Excused: none
   c. Administrators and Staff also present: Annette Barney, Sue Talmadge, Brian Cates of Red Apple, Brett McAllister, Esther Blackwell, and Jason Bennion, Jen Wood of EL Education
   d. Administrators Excused: none
   e. Time: 7:07 pm
II. Meeting Opened by Rod Eichelberger (7:07 pm)
III. Mission Statement by Jason Bennion (7:09 pm)
IV. Approve minutes from 3/25/2021 open and closed (7:08 pm)
   a. Xazmin Prows motions, Karen Bogenschutz seconds. Motion passes by 4-0 vote. Rod Eichelberger abstains.
V. Value Presentation by Joel Coleman on Family
   a. Joel Coleman is delayed and Value Presentation is postponed until his arrival.

Public Comment
I. Public Comment:
   a. NONE  7:09 pm
II. Response to Public Comment:
   a. NONE 7:09 pm

Informational Items
I. Questions and Feedback regarding Executive Director’s report by Esther Blackwell (7:10 pm)
   a. Summary: There are no cases of COVID in the school community. RISE state testing has begun. The literacy committee has narrowed curriculum choices. Entheos is working with our EL “Deeper Learning Cohort”. The school received additional funding for COVID relief. Restricted funds spend down is a on track for NSLP, but special Education is not significantly down. Entheos needs to alter it’s fee policies and language to be in compliance with the state regulations. Marketing efforts continue and are proving successful. Work plan reviewed. Summer school is enrolled at 120 students currently, but continues to rise.
   b. Question: No questions
II. Questions and Feedback regarding Magna Director’s report by Jason Bennion (7:27 pm)
a. Summary: Calendar items were reviewed. Current enrollment is unchanged, 2021-22 enrollment is overenrolled at 586. PCO report was relayed. Service learning examples were shared. Staff recognition includes Cindy Norton, Jennifer Te’o and Ashley Castro.

b. Question: Positive comments on the quality of the window films. Has there been any shortage of applicants? No, the applications have been steady and now we await offer responses.

III. Questions and Feedback regarding Kearns Director’s report by Esther Blackwell (7:38 pm)

a. Summary: Calendar items were reviewed. Current enrollment is unchanged, 2021-22 enrollment is at 486. Examples of marketing window films were shared. PCO report was relayed. Service learning examples were shared. Staff recognition includes Brandi Rasmussen, Zach Lambertson, and Antonio Rodriguez. Work Plan reviewed. Summer school is currently enrolled at 160 students.

b. Questions: No questions.

IV. Entheos Value Presentation on Family by Joel Coleman (7:53 pm)

a. Reads the purpose of family as a value to Entheos Academy and discusses the strengths of having this value support those who work and learn at Entheos.

V. EL Education Presentation by Jennifer Wood (8:02 pm)

a. Review the 3 areas of student achievement (mastery of knowledge and skills, high quality work and character), core principles of EL and the component of Crew. EL is expanding it’s attention to what serves all students. Commitments and concepts remain the same the model is now applied to be true for all students especially regarding educational equity. Key attentions include:

i. “Instruction and assessment that challenges and engages and empowers learners.

ii. Access to standards-based content rich, culturally affirming curriculum.

iii. School culture that posters positive identity, belonging, agency and purpose.

iv. Explicit anti-racist discussion, practice and action.

b. Questions:

i. Contractual relationship with EL was clarified.

ii. What is EL’s position on what those conversations about anti-racism, diversity and inclusion should be? This is driven by the community and the school. The goal is a sense of belonging in the school and the community. Safe, courageous conversations affirming a sense of belonging.

iii. Entheos choice of EL was for the outward bound and expeditions. Those are defocused now. With the new focus where do these components stand? EL is still expedition focused, though not copyright owners of the “Expeditiary Learning” or “Outward Bound”. EL found gaps in achievement and learning as that prescriptive method could not serve all students within the EL model do to urban limitations. But experiential learning is still a core principal and model. To address gaps a literacy curriculum was developed in EL but quality expeditions are still component as fits the school community.

iv. What would be the core trainings offered at EL conferences now? There is a balance of courses. Master classes on instructional learning, how to raise the bar on literacy, service learning and expeditions would still be there. Expedition learning is the pinnacle of achievement for schools and a highest quality of work, so fewer but still present.

v. What will we see in support of our service learning with this shift? Though a school’s EL designer a school can focus their education on service learning.
vi. Is there and EL curriculum in science, math and social studies? There is only an ELA curriculum as literacy is the lever for all learning.

vii. Floor given to Jamie McKay Entheos EL Designer to share that he is pleased to work with Entheos and EL and develop expeditions that meet their needs.

VI. Budget and Finance Report, Deb Ivie reporting (8:34 pm)
   a. Summary: This has been an extraordinary year to get unique funding opportunities in the right pockets. Deb is impressed with the school team that is doing that. We have a high cash balance that we can invest safely in PTIF and that amount needs to be increased. This increased cash is temporary and unique given the funding situation.
   b. Questions: Any rules around money to be aware of? Beyond the new funding programs from COVID and those limitations nothing new from the state. As we look to future budgeting efforts to develop rolling funds for infrastructure maintenance are being developed.

VII. Mission of Entheos Grant by Xazmin Prows (8:54 pm)
   a. Summary: Currently the committee has not received applications from either campus. The grant is open until the end of the month. Xazmin asks what the board would like done if one application is received, but it is not a high quality effort. Deb suggests coming back to the applicant and helping them develop a program that meets the goals and efforts of the grant. The first recipient, our Kindergarten team at Kearns now have their chicken coops up and would welcome any board members that wish to see the coop.
   b. Questions: Rod requested the committee resend the grant information in a final push.

DISCUSSION ITEMS
I. Board Development by Deb Ivie (8:59 pm)
   a. Summary: Deb asked what trainings would be good for the board to receive. Suggestions given include: utilizing committees, school fees, review the mission and vision, “New School Rules” by Anthony Kim, “The End of Average” by Todd Rose, open meetings. Deb will look into these and develop a training framework.
   b. Question:

ACTION ITEMS
I. MOTION approve increasing PTIF investment to a maximum $2.5 million principal deposit
   a. Joel Coleman moves to increase the maximum of the principle deposit to $2.5 million. Adrianne Olsen seconds. Passes by unanimous vote 5-0, Rod Eichelberger abstaining. (9:10 pm)

II. MOTION to approve updated policies 6300, 6301, 6302, and 6303. J
   a. Joel Coleman motions to approve the policies. Xazmin Prows seconds. Passes by unanimous vote 5-0 with board chair abstaining. (9:16 pm)

ADJOURN
Xazmin Prows motions to adjourn. Rod Eichelberger seconds and the meeting adjourns. (9:18 pm)