

ENTHEOS ACADEMY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

February 2, 2022 3:00pm

Held at Kearns Campus

OPENING

- I. Roll Call
 - a. Board Members Present: Xazmin Prows, Deb Ivie, Stephanie Gibson, Karen Bogenschutz
 - b. Board Members Excused: Adrienne Olsen, Rod Eichelberger, Joel Coleman
 - c. Administrators and Staff also present: Esther Blackwell, Dina Wecker
 - d. Administrators Excused: Annette Barney
 - e. Time: 3:00 pm
- II. Meeting opened by Deb Ivie (5:00 pm)
- III. Appoint Committee Chair
 - a. Deb Ivie and Xazmin Prows will serve as co-chairs.
- IV. Appoint committee secretary
 - a. Deb Ivie motioned to appoint Dina Wecker secretary of committee. Xazmin Prows seconds. Motion passes by unanimous vote.
- V. Appoint additional members of the committee
 - a. Considerations include, Jason Bennion, Dina Wecker, Esther Blackwell, Michelle and Mat Edvik.
 - b. Xazmin Prows motions add Esther Blackwell, Jason Bennion and Dina Wecker to the EL Committee. Stephanie Gibson seconds. Motion passes unanimously.
- VI. Overview of EL direction by Esther Blackwell
 - a. Esther lists some changes in EL direction.
- VII. Discussion of EL contract costs.
 - a. websites referenced:
 - i. <https://eleducation.org/resources/library/refinementList%5BtypeCategory.title%5D%5B0%5D=Books>
 - ii. <https://eleducation.org/>
 - iii. <https://eleducation.org/impact/annual-reports>
 - iv. <https://larrycuban.wordpress.com/2018/01/02/whatever-happened-to-the-coalition-of-essential-schools/>
 - b. What is the support expected to receive?
 - i. With the pandemic we have not received on campus days, no institutes, no national conference in 3 years.
 - ii. Dina feels past institutes have helped with development of expedition.
 - iii. Institutes are disappearing from training and vernacular as EL will focus more on modules. Venues for existing are more expensive.
 - iv. School designers provided to schools varying in quality significantly. Our relationship to EL is dependent on our school designer.
 - v. Kearns lost EL credentialing because testing doesn't align with the EL system. So currently no school designer.

- c. Jason expressed that EL is a great way to teach with hands on work, but EL support is a challenge. The Designer when present was not very helpful, but was also not present often due to pandemic. Jason feels the school alone could provide higher quality supports and training. Attending EL conferences does not support what Entheos is trying to do. Direct and support do not support the cost to the school.
 - d. Stephanie asked about how in the beginning the school was told once credentialed they could increase or decrease the contract. Esther said we are signed up for the minimal number of days they allow to remain an EL school and have not been able to receive those days. The pandemic has created a lot of turnover with school designers, regional leadership and the finance department. Inconsistency has made things tricky. When asked about institutes EL said they are focusing on large urban school districts. They are no longer promoting or supporting Professional development on expeditions. However individual school designers can support it. But no PD.
 - e. Dina states that Magna is using the models purchased through Open Up Resources. EL accreditation does not affect access or price for these models.
 - f. Xazmin observed that if EL is moving away from training expeditions, the school designer can't help with that if they aren't trained on it. Esther confirmed that support expeditions will not continue, even after the pandemic when in person visits resume.
 - g. What would the school lose by not moving forward with EL?
 - i. Dina stated the school would lose the benefits of outside inspiration and perspectives. We also lose the use of the terminology etc. We also lose a leadership cohort, but could buy texts and attend conferences.
 - ii. Esther said the school could lose some trust with the public. Messaging must include that the school isn't changing the program of EL is changing.
 - iii. Several schools have left EL including Greenwood, Voyage-PHA, Venture and Promontory.
 - h. Current status with EL.
 - i. Contract expires in August. This year's contract is largely unfulfilled. We want to decide no later than May.
 - i. Do we have other options?
 - i. Esther asks the committee look into other organizations, mix and match options, contracting with an expeditionary learning expert.
- VIII. Committee members will look at current and past partners and talk next time.
- IX. Meeting adjourned