

# ENTHEOS ACADEMY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 25, 2022 7:00pm

Held at Entheos Academy Magna Campus  
2606 South 7200 West Magna, UT 84044

## OPENING

- I. Roll Call
  - a. Board Members Present: Stephanie Gibson, Rod Eichelberger, Brittany Garner
  - b. Board Members Excused: Xazmin Prows, Deb Ivie, Karen Bogenschutz
  - c. Administrators and Staff also present: Esther Blackwell, Jason Benion, Sue Talmadge, Alisha Cartier (arrived 7:50 pm)
  - d. Administrators Excused: Denise Mathews, Mat Edvik, Brian Cates of Red Apple
  - e. Time: 7:07 pm
- II. Meeting Opened by Rod Eichelberger 7:07 pm
- III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Stephanie Gibson 7:08 pm
- IV. Mission Statement by Brittany Garner 7:08 pm
- V. Approve minutes from April 27, 2022 and Consent Agenda 7:09 pm
  - a. Moved to the next meeting. Do not have a quorum to vote.
- VI. Entheos Value Presentation by Rod Eichelberger 7:10 pm
  - a. Looking at the book "We are Crew" and while listening to education podcasts, Charlotte Mason Quote came to mind. "Thought breeds thought; children familiar with great thoughts take as naturally to thinking for themselves as the well-nourished body takes to growing; and we must bear in mind that growth, physical, intellectual, moral, spiritual, is the sole end of education."

## PUBLIC COMMENT

- I. Public Comment: 7:13 pm
  - a. Timothy Olschewski: Topic - Moab trip recently held at Kearns campus. He felt very frustrated because there was no learning focus. Wondered what the point was because it seemed to be about sightseeing. Two instructors said during two different times during the trip that they were just killing time and he was frustrated and thought it was a waste of time. Only felt that at one point during the trip learning occurred. Feels that a change needs to happen. Rod Eichelberger asked which grade. Clarified that it was 7th grade. Rod Eichelberger also asked if the teacher was contacted first. Stephanie Gibson recommended that Timothy discuss with the teacher and then it would be helpful to follow up to the board. Rod Eichelberger said it helps the teacher understand the concerns directly from the student's parents.
  - b. Esther Olschewski. She has also gone on the Moab trip two other times with the same teachers and felt it was non-educational. Other trips, she feels have been very educational. Esther Olschewski asks board members to reconsider iReady. She feels it is such a mess. She feels that her kids, who are above level, are not a successful program

for them. It makes them angry. Feels that it takes them away from learning time. She has pulled out her 4th grader and has been homeschooling. She feels that it punishes kids and makes them feel stupid. She said her 7th grader would just guess or select wrong answers so that it wouldn't be harder. She feels it is wrong, confusing, not teaching kids on their level.

#### INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- I. Q&A on Director's report by Esther Blackwell and Jason Bennion 7:27 pm
  - a. Esther Blackwell highlighted from the calendar that coming up are passages for 8th graders at both campuses. Portfolio share day for teachers June 2nd. Will be laid out and board members are welcome to attend and walk around and review. No questions.
  - b. Stephanie Gibson mentioned that the Celebration of Service was wonderful. Esther Blackwell said it was a huge success. Had some fantastic attendance. Wonderful to give students recognition. She publicly thanked all that helped put it together.
- II. Staff Recognitions 7:31 pm
  - a. Kearns recognized Kristin McNeil-Jones , Kailey Lyche, Marlem Gonzalez
  - b. Magna recognized Dax Gray, Justin Leavitt, Michelle Stratton
- III. School Presentation (7:40 pm)
  - a. Katie Ellis and Dax Gray present from 5th grade. Katie won the Mission of Entheos Grant last year. Bulk of grant money went to publishing books. Students all made posters for their celebration of learning. Both teachers shared posters from each class. Main focus was on presidents of the US but also included other influential people because not enough presidents for all of the students in both 5th grade classes. Mrs Hendricks, art teacher, helped with their drawings of the person that they researched. Wrote essays. They read each other's reports and gave comments. Donating a book to the school library and also Magna library. Donated 2 books to the school board, as well. Stephanie was at the celebration and felt all of the students were confident and competent. Also had some of the students read their essays during the celebration of learning. Rod recommends a hall of fame area for high quality student work.
- IV. Budget and Finance Report (7:50 pm)
  - a. Rod Eichelberger reviews quickly email from Deb Ivie. Audit from state: found "other matter". Large amount of money was spent that wasn't part of the budget. More due to the refinance. Explained with them and nothing more needs to be taken care of. Enrollment dropped slightly. Restricted funds: unspent funds keep growing. Working on spending it down. State allowing them to switch a portion to unrestricted. Will be used to purchase new lunch tables.
- V. Emergency Preparedness and Response Plan Review by Esther Blackwell (7:51 pm)
  - a. Esther Blackwell reported on a training last year. I Love You foundation. Streamline to make things more easily implemented for both campuses. Can be found on the school website. Shared again digitally with parents at both campuses. Don't give out all of the details because it would leave the school vulnerable. Scheduled to attend more training June 14th. Review during summer months so materials are prepared for teachers and paras for the upcoming school year. A few parents reached out today to be part of the safety committee. There are monthly drills with teachers and paras at school. Keep simple so that students are not traumatized. Fire, lock down, earthquake drills.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

- I. Board Development (7:56 pm)
  - a. We are Crew Ch 3
  - b. Creating a structure of crew.
  - c. Rod Eichelberger wonders if we articulate the purpose of crew. Opportunity to refresh why we do crew, its purpose. Is everyone aligned to that? Do we have a unified language around crew?
  - d. Esther Blackwell: Adult crew is going to be spotlighted and student highlighted as well. Form healthy relationships with peers. New teachers may not be fully grounded. Training received and then they gave training for other teachers.
  - e. Rod Eichelberger - focus on crew curriculum. Creating a focus of a year long crew curriculum that would bring together both campuses.
  - f. Stephanie Gibson - pg 73 - questions about how can crew across the school involve families and cross grade collaboration. Mentors from older grades - older grade mentoring a younger grade. Community circle is a school wide crew. How can we involve families? Loved the idea of the curriculum for crew. Needs to be written about the values of Entheos, not the toolbox kit mentioned by EL. Have veteran teachers and admins write the curriculum. Need to have a policy that it is centered around Entheos core values.
  - g. Rod Eichelberger - structure to bring consistency. Crew needs to be unifying. Staff that model how.
  - h. Esther Blackwell feels we are all on the same page. Work plan that will be shared at board retreat is focused on crew curriculum. Buddy crews - older crews with younger crews at Kearns. Room to think about family involvement. Middle school has multi-age crews. Crew goal is directly on the values.
  - i. Brittany Garner loves the idea of curriculum. Can borrow from them to not reinvent the wheel and overwhelm the teachers. Vertical and horizontal building of the curriculum. Crew leadership team of veterans.
- II. Policies for discussion by Sue Talmadge (8:10 pm)
  - a. 2501 School LAND Trust School Community Council
    - i. Grammatical updates. Only real change is that the school will not have a minimum amount of meetings.
  - b. 3400 FEE and FEE WAIVER POLICY
    - i. We are pretty much in the same place. Grammatical changes. Added the school year into it. Needs to be approved by the board annually.
  - c. 6204 Fieldwork Policy and Protocol
    - i. This one had a significant change. Taking out the section about transportation by volunteers and that they CANNOT be transferred by them. Insurances for liability insurance. Not something that is a part of it and so we definitely need to remove that. We need to add additional insurance if we need to use volunteer drivers. Rod Eichelberger appreciates Sue Talmadge checking on that. Brittany Garner mentions Protocol III needed to be crossed out. Alisha will take care of.

## ACTION ITEMS

- I. (8:15 pm) MOTION to renew Xazmin Prows as a Board of Trustee member is tabled as there are not enough board members.

ADJOURN

- I. Time 8:17 pm
- II. Motion: Rod motions we move to adjourn, Brittany seconded the motion