

ENTHEOS ACADEMY BOARD MEETING MINUTES/NOTES

February 28, 2024 7:00pm

Held at Entheos Academy Kearns Campus
4710 West 6200 South Kearns, UT 84118

OPENING

- I. Roll Call
 - a. Board Members Present: Xazmin Prows, Deb Ivie (joined 7:02 pm), Karen Bogenschutz, Rod Eichelberger, Brittany Garner
 - b. Board Members Excused:
 - c. Administrators and Staff also present: Esther Blackwell, Jason Bennion, Denise Mathews, Sue Talmadge, Brian Cates of Red Apple (joined 7:19 pm), Alisha Cartier
 - d. Administrators Excused:
 - e. Time: (6:59 pm)
- II. Meeting Opened by Rod Eichelberger (7:00 pm)
- III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Xazmin Prows (7:00 pm)
- IV. Mission Statement by Brittany Garner (7:00 pm)
- V. Approve minutes from January 24, 2024 and Consent Agenda (7:01 pm)
 - a. **Rod Eichelburger motions that we approve the minutes from January 24, 2024 as well as the Consent Agenda. Second by Brittany Garner. Passes 4-0 (Deb Ivie not present)**
- VI. Entheos Value Presentation by Deb Ivie (7:02 pm)
 - a. Value - Leadership

PUBLIC COMMENT

- I. Public Comment: (7:11 pm)
 - a. NONE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- I. Q&A on Director Reports (7:12 pm)
 - a. District: Esther Blackwell highlights calendar items, ESL Endorsements, enrollment looking good. Enrollment is closed for this year. Lottery is coming up. Middle of Year (MOY) test results. Brittany Garner asked about proficiency. Esther comments that the state changed their definition. The state went through the process of aligning Acadience reading with RISE testing for ELA. Doesn't change our approach or efforts. Rod Eichelberger asks about Charter day on the hill. Esther Blackwell shares that it was a wonderful day for students to represent school, build comradery, meet politicians. Strong student council members and advisors. Very positive experience. Thank you to Royce Van Tassell for helping make that happen. Rod Eichelberger mentioned a new charter school approved that sits between Kearns and Magna. Esther Blackwell shares they have a different approach than Entheos. Rod Eichelberger wondered if that would impact enrollment. Esther Blackwell shares that they have increased efforts to reach families. Melanie Louviere and Misty Startup working hard to reach families, especially

Kindergarten. Royce Van Tassell offers comment that the state law prohibits an authorizer to deny based on how it may affect another campus. That was put in because school districts have said that their enrollment is being hurt by charter schools. Rod Eichelberger mentions it is getting crowded on this side of the valley. Royce Van Tassell shares it is important to recognize our values are similar but not the same. Do the values being taught at home match what is being taught at the school? Be clear on who we are so people can say "That is what I want!"

- b. Kearns: Denise Mathews introduces Carly Crowley. Special education teacher. Denise Matthews then shared data growth over the last 3 years. Science accolades. Rod Eichelberger asks about service learning the middle school did for the senior center. Denise Matthews shares they created place mats in the center and had conversations with the residents.
 - c. Magna: Jason Bennion highlights Service Learning and Discovery. Discussion regarding 4th grade math and 1st grade reading. Xazmin Prows loves the tie in the 2nd grade had with growing herbs. Showing how they can use what they are learning to serve others. Service and Learning organic. Rod Eichelberger asks more about the National Ability Center (NAC). Alisha Cartier shares about experience with the 8th graders.
- II. Staff Recognitions (7:35 pm)
- a. District: Darci Nelson
 - b. Kearns: Sarah Whitley, Nadia Alvarez, Nicole Rich
 - c. Magna: Katie Ellis, Taylor Cooper, Deb Azevedo
- III. School Presentation by Sarah Whitley (7:45 pm)
- a. Celebration 8th grade. Interview a person and then paint their portrait. Able to experience an art museum. Go during the high school art show because it is more relatable. Discover which ones they connect with and why. Also did writing.
- IV. Budget and Finance Report Deb Ivie (7:54 pm)
- a. Time of year, not much new to stay. Report is from the previous month. About 58% through the year. Most budgets on par. A few that are more upfront expenses, to be expected. Moved \$400K into PTIF. Restricted funds money is being used the way it needs to be. No excessive funds left in accounts but also not over spending. Brian Cates shares that it is also time of year gearing up to put together next year's budget. Waiting for the outcome of the legislative session. Also this week working on the report due at the beginning of April for COVID funds and how it was spent. Esther Blackwell comments that we will see some shifting in budget due to large grants that will be coming through. Rod Eichelberger would like to get together with the finance committee about how to better leverage larger spending. Deb Ivie states that it is also time of year that Brian Cates is putting together fraud risk assessment. One thing added is that Red Apple has CPA. Improves school's score.
- V. Audit Committee Report by Deb Ivie (8:00 pm)
- a. The audit committee oversees the process for auditing. Can only consist of two people because of the size of the board. Did have one finding that had to do with COVID report. Gave too much information. Asked for a letter of corrective action. Put together by Esther Blackwell and Brian Cates. Rod Eichelberger felt satisfied with the change in the audit company. Brian Cates shared it is a much better fit for Red Apple as well. Rod Eichelberger comments that the last 4 month trend is the cash balance has been going up. What is driving the cash balance so high? Esther Blackwell shares the remaining

ESSER funds that will be used in the next few months. Brian Cates adds that the ESSER III funds came in this year. Planning to spend down this year. Rod Eichelberger asks that the finance committee look at cash on hand versus overall budget. Brian Cates comments that the cash position does include PTIF. Rod Eichelberger asks for a line that represents PTIF to evaluate all cash on hand.

VI. Safety Committee Report by Esther Blackwell (8:07 pm)

- a. I Love You Guys, standard response protocol. State working to get schools and law enforcement to use the same language. Standard Reunification Method. How to reunite parents and guardians with students either on campus or off campus. Encouraged by the state. Reunification plans (parent portion) is available on the website. What they can expect. Need to bring valid ID. School safety specialists appointed as requested by the state. Help coordinate committees and collaborate with local law enforcement. District committee previously was COVID committee. Now have two committees, one at each campus, so that it is tailored to local needs and law enforcement. Rod Eichelberger question the school seems to have good relationships with Kearns police, hit and miss with Magna. What more can we do? Esther Blackwell shares that Relationship is improving. Jason Bennion adds that they have been able to contact individual officer and he has been on top of things. Working on setting up meeting with chief. Building communication. Unified is putting forth effort to build relationship.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

I. Board Development by Royce Van Tassell (8:14 pm)

- a. Utah Association of Public Charter Schools (UAPCS) - 20 years. First 5 years of Utah's charter school, there was no representation. Not as effective on capitol hill. First chair, Eric Smith, founded some charter schools. Royce Van Tassell has been with for 10 years. Provide services. Work throughout the year to develop and maintain relationships for and with charter schools. Legislature has been clear that they like charter schools. Ironing out messy relationships. Want to help schools find teachers that are graduating. Many ways it can be handled outside of legal code. Safety - relationships between schools and law enforcement. House and Senate passed HB 84. Each school will need to do evaluation of safety profile and determine weaknesses. Invest money to schools with highest needs. Panic button that goes from classroom directly to law enforcement. First floor windows will need bullet proof covering. Statewide contract. Every school will need to have a school guardian. Armed guard on campus. At all times. Could be employee. They can't be teacher or administrator. May need to be a new employee. This will be an ongoing expense and will need to be figured out. \$100M one time. Looking at budget, plan on 5% increase in WPU. New money coming in. Cost of living, inflation is going up. He works every month with state board of education, writing rules. Proposed rule changes in all committees. Receives feedback from charter school committee. Goes to board meetings so he can learn by hearing the challenges that each school is facing. Monthly member meeting, update on what is happening in charter land. Introduce new members. Very strong training program. Admins, board members. Training for teachers. Apple program. Those who have not gone through teacher college, can get a full professional teaching license. Flexibility. Minimum thresholds that everyone needs to have. Looking for ways to grow charter community. HOpe to see an

additional 10K students by end of decade. Did a poll and found rural Utah would like options for charter schools. There needs to be trust among the families. All kids deserve an opportunity for education. Help schools fill empty seats. Help charter community at large get bigger and more successful. Rod Eichelberger: charter authorizers. Royce shares how that works. Want more of a bilateral relationship. Option to go find a new authorizer. All legislative priorities, more rules that dictate curriculum. Loosing beautiful program because of control of curriculum. Royce. High in their priority. Charter schools are supposed to be different. What people expect from a school varies from place to place. The legislature is of several minds. Obligation to meet needs to students. Did spend money the right way (way prescribed). Working to reduce the number of line items/strings.

- II. Policies for discussion by Xazmin Prows (8:42 pm)
 - a. 4300 Employee and Student Computer Acceptable Use
 - b. 4110 Anti-Discrimination Policy
 - c. 4111 LEA-Specific Educator License Requirement
 - d. 5102 Full-Time and Dual Enrollment Policy
 - e. 6306 Electronic Device
- III. Governor's Request to Remove Cell Phones From Classrooms by Rod Eichelberger (8:45 pm)
 - a. Received an email from Gov Cox. Would be good for parents to receive. Only has been shared with community council. Social media harms material.

ACTION ITEMS

- I. **MOTION** (8:49 pm)
 - a. **Rod Eichelberger motions to approve the changes to the board meeting schedule for 2024, moving the board meetings to Thursday. Xazmin Prows seconds. Motion passes 5-0.**
- II. **MOTION** (8:53 pm)
 - a. **Rod Eichelberger motions to approve the final School LAND Trust Report for 2022-2023. Brittany Garner Seconds. Motion passes 5-0.**

Break

- III. **MOTION** (8:55 pm)
 - a. **Rod Eichelberger motions we move to closed session to discuss security personnel, devices, or systems. Karen Bogenschutz seconds. Motion passes 5-0.**
 - b. Board Members Present: Xazmin Prows, Deb Ivie, Karen Bogenschutz, Rod Eichelberger, Brittany Garner
 - c. Administrators also present: Esther Blackwell, Jason Bennion, Denise Mathews, Sue Talmadge, Alisha Cartier,
 - d. Others present: Rob Oldham

ADJOURN

- I. Time: 9:19 pm
- II. **Motion: Xamin Prows motions to adjourn this meeting. Karen Bogenschutz seconds. Motion passes 4-0. Rod Eichelberger abstains.**

ENTHEOS ACADEMY

EXCELLENCE • SERVICE • LEADERSHIP

AFFIDAVIT

Entheos Academy School Board Closed Session

Wednesday, 28 February 2024

Entheos Kearns Campus

4710 West 6200 South Kearns, UT 84118

This closed session was held to discuss security personnel, devices, or systems according to Utah Code 52-4-2-205.



3/2/2024

Rod Eichelberger
Entheos Academy Board Chair

Date