

ENTHEOS ACADEMY BOARD MEETING MINUTES

May 28, 2026 6:00pm

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

OPENING

- I. Roll Call
 - a. Board Members Present: Xazmin Prows, Karen Bogenschutz, Rod Eichelberger, Jaren Gibson
 - b. Board Members Excused: Deb Ivie
 - c. Administrators and Staff also present: Esther Blackwell, Jason Bennion, Denise Mathews, Sue Talmadge, Brian Cates of Red Apple
 - d. Administrators Excused: Alisha Cartier
 - e. Others in attendance: Luseane Tafisi
 - f. Time: (6:00 pm)
- II. Meeting Opened by Rod Eichelberger (6:00 pm)
- III. Pledge of Allegiance led by Jaren Gibson (6:01 pm)
- IV. Mission Statement by Rod Eichelberger (6:02 pm)
- V. **Rod Eichelberger motions to approve the April 23, 2026 board meeting minutes. Second by Jaren Gibson. (6:03 pm)**
 - a. Vote: Karen Bogenschutz, Jaren Gibson, Rod Eichelberger, Xazmin Prows
- VI. **Rod Eichelberger motions to approve the May 28, 2026 consent agenda. Second by Xazmin Prows. (6:03 pm)**
 - a. Vote: Karen Bogenschutz, Jaren Gibson, Rod Eichelberger, Xazmin Prows
- VII. Entheos Value Presentation by Luseane Tafisi (6:04 pm)
 - a. Value: Excellence

PUBLIC COMMENT

- I. Public Comment: (6:13 pm)
 - a. NONE

INFORMATIONAL ITEMS

- I. Q&A on Director Reports (6:13 pm)
 - a. District: Esther Blackwell - highlight introducing MS electives next year at both campuses. Great for teachers, have say in what they are able and willing to teach. Kids are excited about it. Will get all core subjects, Discovery, Adventure. Something additional. Motivating for kids to apply themselves. Get more elective choice when demonstrating on level or growth. Xazmin Prows asks how it will work with schedule? Magna simpler, Kearns is difficult because three 6th grade and two of other grades. Magna - 7th period will be elective. Kearns will vary based on grade and needs of student. Nature based adventure playground update. Waiting for initial proposals. Discussed initial desires and showed ideas. Interesting because they felt they would have to start with landscape architect. Very landscape based. Land situation between

both schools is different. Magna will be more challenging because of soil and lack of drainage. Build up areas. Phase 1 and phase 2 because of the amount of resources for installation. Hopefully have something to share in next 2-3 weeks.

- b. Magna: Jason Bennion - a lot of service, Celebration of Service, adventure trips - Arches, Fillmore. Discovery recital - great turn out. Testing is done!
 - c. Kearns: Denise Mathews: Book Fair, teacher appreciation week - book theme. Kindergarten celebration of learning. Lagoon day. Adventure. Night of Greatness. Celebration of Service - political attending. Community Circle recognized - exemplars, attendance. 5th grade student wanted to get a headstart with his 6th grade year of service. Help pay for lunches. Featured on the news. Raised \$2100.
- II. Staff Recognitions (6:30 pm)
- a. District: Luseane Tafisi
 - b. Magna: Sanna Smith, Taylor Cooper, Charlene Pututau
 - c. Kearns: Stefanie Carrillo, Spencer Nielson, Sara Erickson
- III. Budget and Finance Report by Brian Cates (6:38 pm)
- a. Working on finalizing this year's budget and work put in for next year's budget. Appreciate all that Esther Blackwell, Sue Talmadge, and their team putting together the budget. Many moving parts. This year, continue to perform strongly. Between 10-11% operating margin. Cash position is strong. Continue to deposit into PTIF. Project should be able to do again in coming months. Will get reimbursement back on restricted funds. Enrollment continues to be strong. 1045 as of end of April. Next year, projections are strong. Esther Blackwell mentioned several projects, capital expenditures. Two agenda items on next month's agenda. Finalize this year's budget and approve next year's budget. Being conservative with next year. Jaren Gibson asks when decide to transfer to PTIF? Brian Cates mentions that he monitors accounts. When above margin, transfer extra. Liquid fund. Can transfer back and forth with no penalty. Rod Eichelberger asks PTIF interest trending? Brian Cates shares just over 4%. Slight down trend. Still strong.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

- I. Board Development by Esther Blackwell (6:44 pm)
- a. Chapter 9 - Preparing for Collective Action. Collective action problems. Parents feel like they can't act alone. Parent may not want to give child a smart phone but social pressure when everyone else has one. Circles of Control. Center - board control, board influence, outside board control. In regards to social media, what is in board control: devices in school, policies, resource allocation. Board influence: implementing policies, admin understanding, vision and school culture, values, parent conversations, present at activities and talking to students. Outside board control: legislation, home life, tech companies. Spending time discussing things we care about, but difficult because a lot of it is outside of our control. Question: since we value family, what does it look like for a school to support families in challenges that are larger than any one family can solve alone? Peer pressure, collective action. Support of the need, provide resources. Bell to bell legislation. Empowers the parents at home. Set value and standard. Give parents more to speak to the fact this is not healthy. Educating. Starting to catch on that parents don't need to buy phones for kids. What we do can ripple out. Set expectations and teach students to make wise technology decisions.
- II. Policies for discussion by Xazmin Prows (6:56 pm)
- a. 2100 Board Business Practices - no questions or concerns

- b. 2502 Charter Trust LAND Council Election Procedures - section added about filling vacancies, removal process. Need for school. Reached out to state. No questions or concerns
 - c. 5306 Child Abuse and Neglect Reporting - new requirements to add. No questions or concerns
 - d. 6201 Looping - keeping policy because part of our charter. Jason Bennion asked if 6th grade needs to be excluding because part of middle school? Decided it doesn't need to be changed. No concerns.
 - e. 6209 Effective Educator Standards Policy - no questions or concerns
 - f. School Bus Post-Trip Inspection Policy - Sue Talmadge to send policy number to Alisha Cartier. Rod Eichelberger asks if we have a way to make sure it is happening? The bus driver has a check list. No concerns.
- III. UAPCS briefing discussion by Esther Blackwell (7:03 pm)
- a. OPMA - recording available for everyone to watch. Significant issue for charter schools. Increase in lawsuits related to violations of OPMA and GRAMA requests. One individual that has filed dozens of lawsuits. Focusing on minor. Posting meeting less than 24 hours in advance. Agenda language. Not conducting proper roll call. Voting before entering closed session. No ill intentions but need to comply with expectations. Highly scrutinized. If mistake is identified, board needs to cure. Repost and redo meeting. Email that was forwarded included training. Risk management companies may not cover litigation. There are 24 current lawsuits. Rod Eichelberger asked about motivations. Denise Mathews asks what is the end game. Driven by attorney. Lawsuits against other public entities. Rod Eichelberger mentioned that attorney fees are covered. Jaren Gibson comments that the attorney is drumming up business for himself. Sue Talmadge and Esther Blackwell have received Grama requests more than typical. Time consuming, prompt with responses.

ACTION ITEMS

- I. **Rod Eichelburger motions to move to closed session to discuss character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual. Jaren Gibson seconds. (7:13 pm)**
 - a. **Roll Call: Karen Bogenschutz, Jaren Gibson, Rod Eichelburger, Xamin Prows**

ADJOURN

- I. Time: 7:48 pm
- II. Motion: Jaren Gibson motions to adjourn this meeting. Second by Xamin Prows.
- III. Roll Call: Karen Bogenschutz, Jaren Gibson, Rod Eichelberger, Xazmin Prows

ENTHEOS ACADEMY

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AFFIDAVIT

Entheos Academy School Board Closed Session

Thursday, 28 May 2026
Entheos Magna Campus

2606 South 7200 West Magna, UT 84044

This closed session was held to discuss the character, competency, physical or mental health of an individual according to Utah Code 52-4-2-205.



6/2/2026

Rod Eichelberger
Entheos Academy Board Chair

Date