

Minutes of The Summit Charter School, Inc.

**Board of Trustees**

March 16, 2021

Report by: Betsy Helms and submitted by Collins Zimmer

Voting Members Attending: Ann Betty (Chair); Betsy Helms (Vice Chair); David Billingsley (Treasurer); Robin Tanner, Elisabeth Hoffman, Travis Boswell, Tim Boeve, Edward Cole, and Boris Krueger

Voting Members Absent: Collins Zimmer (Secretary)

Non-Voting Members and Foundation Board Members Attending: Kurt Pusch (Head of School); Marie Starkings (Business Officer); Gretchen Kapity, Jesse Loyd, Orlando Buck, and Sarah Chapin

Non-Voting Members absent: Tracie Jernigan (SFA)

The March 16, 2021 meeting of The Summit Charter School, Inc. Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:35p.m. with Ann Betty, Chair presiding.

All attending recited the Summit Pledge.

Approval of Minutes: Betsy Helms moved that the Minutes from the February 16, 2021 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Boris Krueger and was approved unanimously.

Director's Report: Kurt Pusch presented his Head of School Report, a copy of which was distributed at the meeting. Last month the Board approved the calendar for the upcoming school year. The 2021-22 calendar has since then been distributed to families. Next year is Summit's 25<sup>th</sup> year; we will be thinking about how to celebrate and commemorate this important occasion. There have been a few Covid cases recently and 2<sup>nd</sup> grade has returned this week following a week of remote learning. Through the health grant, continued testing will be provided through the end of the school year. Summit has decided to suspend all overnight trips for the rest of the year, which will affect the Barrier Islands trip and the NOC trip. Kurt presented academic data, which was in line with the same data the Board saw last month. ACT results are in for the 11<sup>th</sup> grade, and those are being reviewed. Lauren Bennett is meeting with all 11<sup>th</sup> grade families next week to discuss post-secondary plans. There was a discussion about Summit's commitment to all our students to have college choices that are a good match for them. Kurt reviewed a few "placemaking" projects with the board with the goal of increased utilization of outdoor learning spaces on campus, which is in line with our planning focus in 2021 – 2022. Kurt reviewed updates on Sports, Arts, and Clubs including the success of soccer and the community support we are seeing for the lacrosse program. Kurt shared that he will have a draft of the redesigned Summit website to share with the board as soon as it is ready, but that the new website is projected to launch in April or May. Kurt reported that the Family Fund is making excellent progress and that we are hosting our inaugural Bear Dash Fun Run and 5K on May 1. Proceeds will go to the High School LEAD program and the family fund. Kurt reviewed student enrollment and retention, which is going well with a 61% increase of number of applications since this time last year. Kurt gave an update on Faculty and Staff, highlighting that we have filled the Music/Performing Arts position with Nathan Trivers who will join the faculty in August. Kurt extended a huge thank you to Gretchen Kapity who will be leaving at the end of the year for all that she has brought to Summit.

Marketing Update: Kurt Pusch gave a report on the Family Fund, the “One Summit Family” campaign progress, as well as fundraising activities. He highlighted how successful the grant writing process has been this year. He indicated that we have exceeded our goals in this area.

Treasurer’s Report: David Billingsley discussed the Treasurer’s Report (February 28, 2021). SCS is currently in a good financial position.

Committee Reports:

- Facilities: Boris Krueger has called for a quote on the exterior painting job to be completed over the summer. He reported that there are also some small repairs on the to-do list. Ann shared that she spoke to Justin Mathis about our interest in drawing up a master site plan. Kurt indicated that faculty member Rob Case is starting a Frisbee club, and we are looking toward building a disc golf course on campus.
- Governance/Trustees: Nothing new to report.
- Curriculum: Nothing new to report.
- Strategic Planning: Nothing new to report.
- SFA: Summit’s Got Talent was a virtual success this year. SFA collected from 21 videos from Summit students, edited the show and posted the Talent Show online on March 12<sup>th</sup> for viewing. A Fun-Run and 5k event is set for May 1st. The documentation of SFA responsibilities, officer positions, calendared events, and the general role of SFA at SCS is currently underway.

Faculty Appreciation per quarter

1<sup>st</sup> Quarter: Ann Betty and Collins Zimmer

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter: Boris Krueger and Tim Boeve (December)

3<sup>rd</sup> Quarter: Robin Tanner and Betsy Helms (March)

4<sup>th</sup> Quarter: The Board will provide a teacher appreciation event collectively in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

Additional Business:

Robin Tanner shared some updates on the Summit Connector Trail progress. As a reminder, the Summit Connector Trail was a plan envisioned 10 years ago that would connect Summit to the Cashiers Rec Center. The owner of Cornucopia, Mr. Perry King, is interested in investing in the project. He is a real estate developer in ATL. At this point in the process, we are focused on raising money for the feasibility study, developing plans, and then building the trail. There was discussion on how many private properties the trail would pass through, and Robin expressed that because the original plan was created a decade ago there may be a better path for it now. Again, a feasibility study will shed light on that.

Ann reminded the group that we will be looking at a draft of the 2021 – 2022 budget. She also shared that we are considering parent Jenn Douglass as a new board member. Jenn was not able to join us tonight, but we hope to meet her at the April meeting.

Our next meeting will take place on April 20<sup>th</sup>. Ann adjourned the meeting at 5:29pm.

There was a motion to adjourn the meeting and the meeting was adjourned.