

**MINUTES OF THE SUMMIT CHARTER SCHOOL  
BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

**September 7, 2013**

**Report By: Amanda Stoltzfus, Secretary**

The September 7<sup>th</sup>, 2013 meeting of the Summit Charter School Board of Trustees was called to order at 1:00 pm by Wes Stone, Chairman, presiding. The following Trustee members were in attendance: Amanda Stoltzfus, Martie Kingree, Geoff Allen, Tammy Bryson, Rachel Dyer, AJ Grube, Ed Morse, Scott Westendorf, Summit Director, Jack Talmadge and Business Manager, Marie Starkings.

Absent: Sergio Barranco, Jay Drummonds, Sam Edgens

Visitors: no visitors

Public Comment: No Public Comment

Approval of Minutes: Scott Westendorf moved to accept the minutes and Ed Morse seconded. All in favor.

**Director's Report by Dr. Jack Talmadge:**

***Enrollment:*** 2013/2014 Enrollment decreased to 198 students. We did not pick up new students.

***Operating Budget:*** The new budget was set on 195 students. The budget figures given from the state reflect a slight increase from what we received last year. We will have our true enrollment figures on Sept. 16<sup>th</sup> (20<sup>th</sup> day of school). ***EOG Testing:*** EOG test scores from last May will be received some time in October. ***School calendar:*** The calendar is based off of 185 days. No built in snow days. Every snow day must be made up. We can start and end our calendar year when we want. Tried to keep calendar as close to last year as possible. ***Power School:*** The state upgraded its data reporting system to Pearson's Power School. However, Summit will continue to use Blackbaud. Acadia North Star will maintain the school's Power School data. ***New Hires:*** There are a total of 6 new hires for the 2013/14 school year. There was a large candidate pool to choose from. First picks were employed. Debbie Kenter was hired as Director of Community Relations. She is on a trial basis through Oct. Will become a SCS employee employed by the SCS Foundation. ***Faculty Development:*** The staff completed a group summer reading project. They read *Good to Great* by Jim Collins, and the Images of America series. Goal this year is to add historical connections to our place-based studies. ***Facilities: Soccer Field & Erosion:*** Bill Hoffman worked on new drainage plan for erosion issues; field is still sinking in certain areas. Field is now permanent and will move forward to putting more resources in it to make it a better field. It has been recommended that a team of parents/advisors assist in the field maintenance plan in order to maintain a high quality playing field. ***Routine Summer Maintenance:*** Tony Richard has done a great job and kept costs low. Routine maintenance has been taking place. ***Technology Upgrades:*** We have obtained two of the three grants (totaling \$13,000) to help fund the 1:1 iPad initiative in the middle school. We are waiting on one more grant request (\$15,000) from the Wade Donor Advised Fund, before pursuing the integration of the tablet computers. The entire project will require a two-year phase-in plan. Some infrastructure changes will need to take

place that Joe Fowler will be working on along with possibly Geoff Allen. **Summer Programs:** We placed a moratorium on summer programs due to historical losses. Summer tutoring was offered through a college volunteer. About 8 students participated this summer. **Athletics:** Soccer and Cross Country off to a great start. We started charging (\$2.00 per person) for athletic events. Summit students and faculty have free admission. We were the only school not charging. Basketball home games will be at the rec. center: we cannot charge there. **The Place-based Mission:** \* Trail Night: The year's theme is "Strengthening our Roots". Our annual trail study will take on the historical component. \* Quest: The Quest experiential education program will continue many of the field excursions conducted from the past, and will also implement the educational gardens as one of the field components for all grades. \* Heritage Clubs: The 3-5 base camp program will study the rise of Cashiers. **ELL Support:** Students identified as English Language Learners, will have additional support classes built into the week to better enhance their English speaking skills and vocabulary as it relates to academic instruction at school. An ESL class for Summit parents is also under investigation. **Open House/Welcome Back Picnic:** Thursday 9/12/13 @ 4:15 to 7:00. Classrooms are open at 4:15; group meeting in courtyard at 5:30 followed by a picnic.

### **Committee Reports:**

#### **SCSF, Inc.:**

Report By: Jack Talmadge for Shannon Hargrove

**Taste of the Plateau:** Exhibited growth in numbers of participants, but down in sponsorships:

- Patron Party – 100 (80 in 2012)
- Sunday Gala – 300+ (200 in 2012)
- Auction – 40% Growth in proceeds
- Sponsorships/ Donations - \$16,000 (\$50,000 in 2012)
- No Speaker Luncheon this year – (\$15,000 loss)
- Net proceeds are down.

2014 Taste of the Plateau dates have been moved. Will be at the end of June due to so many community events in July.

**Golf Tournament:** Mountaintop will be hosting a golf tournament on 10/14/13. Event will benefit SCS. Net proceeds are projected to exceed \$25,000. **Land Acquisition:** The SCSF has negotiated a very fair price for 11.5 acres contiguous to the campus (back behind playground). Will close on Sept. 26<sup>th</sup>. Summit will now include 36.5 acres of continuous property.

#### **Budget Report:**

Report By: Marty Kingree

Last May the board voted to approve this year's budget. (Each year the board approves our best guess for the budget for the next school year.) We did take a cut from the state but will be offset in that we have 3 more children than this report was based off of. **Marie Starkings:** Beginning of the year budget looks wonderful. The reason we have a surplus is b/c of revenue from the SCSF.

**Old Business:** Wes Stone commented on re-visiting the idea of bringing in a bus route from Cullowhee to Cashiers. A bus route could be an asset once we are in a position to grow. This is a

strong consideration for the future. This would be a SCSF initiative since the Foundation does own the bus.

**New Business:** *Vice Chair Role:* AJ Grube nominated herself and Ed Morse seconded. Board voted. All in favor.

**Adjournment:**

No other formal business. Meeting adjourned at 2:00 pm.