

## **Minutes of The Summit Charter School, Inc.**

### **Board of Trustees**

May 21, 2019

Report by: Collins Zimmer, Secretary

Voting Members Attending: Edward Cole (Chair); Ann Betty (Vice Chair); Collins Zimmer (Secretary); David Billingsley (Treasurer); Linda Quick, Sarah Chapin, Robin Tanner, Travis Boswell, Katie Bumgarner, Scott Westendorf

Non-Voting Members and Foundation Board Members Attending: Billy Leonard (Director); Andrea Chalker (K-8 Principal); Lauren Bennett (Upper School Principal); Melissa Hudson (Development Director); Kate Schelbe (Faculty Board Member); Josh Crawford (Foundation Board Chair); Marie Starkings (Business Officer); Tracie Jernigan (SFA)

The May 21, 2019 meeting of The Summit Charter School, Inc. Board of Trustees was called to order at 4:30p.m. with Edward Cole, Chair presiding.

All attending recited the Summit Pledge.

Five students representing the current 9<sup>th</sup> grade class presented a letter of gratitude and optimism regarding their first year in High School, a copy is attached to the Minutes.

Approval of Minutes: Sarah Chapin moved that the Minutes from the April 23, 2019 meeting be approved. The motion was seconded by Linda Quick and was approved unanimously.

Election of New Board Members: Elizabeth Hoffman was unanimously voted to join the Board of Trustees.

Election of Officers: Edward Cole motioned, Linda Quick seconded, and the Board unanimously approved Ann Betty as Chair. Edward Cole motioned, Robin Tanner seconded, and the Board unanimously voted David Billingsley as Treasurer. Collins Zimmer also received the approval of the Board as Secretary. Ann Betty nominated and Linda Quick seconded Scott Westendorf as Co-Chair of the Board.

Treasurer's Report: David Billingsley presented his Treasurer's Report, a copy of which was distributed at the meeting. He shared forecasts and actuals.

Budget: David Billingsley, Ann Betty and Edward Cole all shared aspects of the proposed budget for the 2019-20 year. This budget will be revised in September once teacher positions have been filled, salaries determined, and students are actively enrolled. In the best interest of the Board, school and time, we acknowledge that these amendments (Line 30 and Line 32 of the timestamped April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2019 Summit Financial Position document) will be agreed upon by both the Board of Trustees and Foundation Board in the September meeting.

Director's Report: Billy Leonard presented his Director's Report, a copy of which was distributed at the meeting. He addressed current student enrollment (234) and current 2019-2020 application and

withdrawal numbers. In the meeting, he was asked to send two documents titled Student Recruitment Recommendation and Bus Transportation Report to the members present, which he did so before the meeting adjourned.

Committee Reports:

- Governance: The committee is currently addressing the issues and recommendations gathered from the research and collective experience of its members on both Boards; they presented to both Boards in April and again May 16<sup>th</sup>. These discussions are ongoing. Handbooks for both Boards are in the making. The next meeting will be in June.
- Curriculum: Students are currently taking EOG's and will have scores later in the year.
- Development: We had a successful Cinco de Mayo party at the Summit Center. A charity event for Summit and Blue Ridge schools hosted by CCSV is in the works. July 8<sup>th</sup> will be our Summit Center grand opening and there will be an Open House every month this summer.
- Construction: We are days away from completing the ramp. Construction of the High School buildings are underway.
- Facilities/Safety: Upcoming costs include the repainting of the school this summer. Future building maintenance costs are being noted.
- SFA: New officers were elected. Collins Zimmer, Tracie Jernigan and Katie Bumgarner will step into these roles.

There was no other business discussed.

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

**Faith:**

Hi. My name is Faith Taylor (all introduce themselves). Thank you for the opportunity to share some of our experiences from our freshmen year and answer any questions you may have about the high school program. Just like most HS students, we spend most of our time studying new concepts and skills in our core academic classes, but our teachers also spend time helping us grow as leaders. For example, Ms. Stewart has not only taught me to write a decent essay, but she is also teaching us to develop empathy and demonstrate compassion for others. Mr. Hughes has taught me to memorize the quadratic formula, and he also challenges me to build my character and show respect.

**Zach:**

In addition to our core classes, we earn elective credits on LEAD Fridays, which is when we focus on our greater community, learn more about our strengths and interests, and challenge our comfort zones. An important part of the Lead program are our experience-based learning opportunities and we want to take a minute to list our freshmen experiences with you:

We started the year with our AMAZING 6 day orientation trip in Jackson Hole, Wyoming. We have participated in Service Projects at Manna Food Bank, the Asheville Rescue Mission, and Eckerd Living Center, the Blue

Ridge Free Dental Clinic, and our local library. We also learned about our Myers Briggs personality types.

**Abby:** We organized a local blood drive, participated in a river clean-up project on the Tuckaseegee and learned to fly fish, hiked over 50 miles on 10 different area trails, and went rock climbing at Camp Merrie-Woode...

**Faith:** We visited Western Carolina University several times where we participated in a physical therapy research project, and we completed individual mosaics with the help from the art department. We also toured Brevard College and the Brevard Music Center to learn more about the theater and music program...

### **Karina**

We learned about personal finance from a credit union, baked cookies at a local bakery, interviewed world renown Wes Wofford in his studio, practiced fine dining etiquette at Lonesome Valley, and this Friday we get to go White Water Rafting.

### **ESME:**

The LEAD program helped me learn more about my strengths and interests. For instance, I learned that I have great executive functioning skills. I helped organize a blood drive and coordinated logistics for several

of our trips, including two college tours. My freshman year has made me think more about my future, but more importantly, I am discovering who I really am.

When I started high school on August 22nd, I was really scared and nervous about my first year. I have always been an incredibly shy person.

Sometimes this has given people the wrong impression of who I am. They would sometimes mistake my shyness for rudeness or unfriendliness.

Throughout this year I have tried to change that, so that people will actually see the person I am. As an upcoming 10th grader, I can say that I am stronger now than the 9th grader who walked through these doors.

**ABBY:**

I like to think of my first year at Summit Charter School as a journey. It's full of new beginnings, tests, and perseverance. My journey does not begin here, but rather at Rabun Gap, where I had a low self-esteem and few friends. My parents saw my condition and decided to send me here. I did not want to go here because I was scared to enter a new world. After visiting Summit, I saw all of the potential that the school had, so I decided to step out of my comfort zone and make Summit Charter School my second home. Ever since my first day, my teachers have been phenomenal mentors and advisors. I have learned how to take risks and be adventurous

and learned sometimes you have to be uncomfortable to make progress. I have also learned the importance of strong morals and the value of having strong mentors. The old, change-hating me is dead, and now I know that change can lead to beautiful things, such as new friendships and memories. I have learned to be myself. My experiences on LEAD Fridays have brought my true soul out of my shell of anxiety and helped me become a great leader. Most importantly, for the first time in my life, I have a family at Summit. I have great friends that make me laugh as we experience ninth grade together. I hope the laughter and memories will never end.

### **Karina**

We want to thank all of you for believing in the class of 2022, for supporting our school and helping make the 9th grade LEAD Program a reality. Do you have any questions for us?