



# Summit Academy Charter School

## Minutes

### January Board Meeting

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#### Date and Time

Wednesday January 31, 2024 at 6:00 PM

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#### Trustees Present

C. McCants (remote), M. Bernard (remote), V. Connelly (remote)

#### Trustees Absent

A. Murray, A. Young, K. Montgomery, L. Almonte, M. Nieves, S. Pérez-Sadler

#### Guests Present

Everett Hughs (remote), Frances Levine (remote), Gustavo Leppe (remote), Juned Haque (remote), M. Kohlhagen, M. Spencer-Edwards, N. Campbell, Raisa Schwanbeck (remote), S. Handshaw

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### I. Opening Items

#### A. Record Attendance

#### B. Call the Meeting to Order

#### C. Approve Minutes

V. Connelly made a motion to approve the minutes from December Board Meeting on 12-19-23.

C. McCants seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

## II. Academic Excellence

### A. Principal's Report

The board has not met quorum as of yet, so the Principal will present data as a point of discussion. There are no items to vote on in under the Principal's report.

#### Vacancies

- 1 HS Spanish teacher

#### New Hires

- MS Social Studies Teacher- Mr. Broder
- HS History Teacher- Mr. Thomas
- HS Math Teacher- Ms. Fischer

#### Enrollment & Recruitment

**MS total: 99.      HS total: 166.      Total: 265**

- **In January, as our migrant scholars shifted shelters, new residents began to register.**
  - This week alone we registered 4 new migrant scholars. All families came by word of mouth
- **Creating marketing campaign for the coming school year**
  - Facebook Lead Ads
  - Constant Contact Marketing
  - Vanguard engaged to do mailers via the DOE system

#### Recruitment Tools

- **Website Revisions**
  - [www.sacsny.com](http://www.sacsny.com)
- **Open House Sessions planned and shared with our local organizations.**

**Dates are:**

  - Feb. 27, 2024 and by appointment
- Ramped up social media campaign with new videos and pictures posted regularly.
- Using social media to celebrate Black History Month and Women's History Month and attract new followers
- Summit Bus I has plates and is ready to hit the road
  - Thank you Ms. Handshaw and Mr. Carson for your diligence with this tedious process

## **Mock Assessments**

- Last week students in Grades 6-11 took Mock Regents and State exams.
- Students were tested under State testing conditions
- The results from these assessments will allow us to determine their strengths and weaknesses. Then we will use Mastery Connect to assess students every 6-8 weeks on those standards that scholars are deficient in.
- For Semester 2 daily class instruction will include test preparation embedded in the lesson plans. We have created a Algebra 1 test prep for upper class students who need an Math regents.
- SACS school leadership has developed a daily testing schedule for MS that will track students month by month.
- We will also conduct 2 additional Mock Regents and State mock assessments leading up to the actual state assessments in the Spring.

## **Reflections on Public Hearing**

- Teacher and Parent testimonials
- Board Member testimonials
- Next Steps
- SACS Focus: 2nd Semester
- Questions & Comments

## **Scholastics Book Fair:** SACS partnered with Scholastics to host our first book fair.

- Fair opened to middle and high school scholars for 4 days
- AP Price hosted a pre-fair walk through so scholars could check out the merchandise
- ELA teachers in MS created a read-a-thon for scholar to begin at the end of the fair to encourage scholars to read their new books

## **5th Annual Education Matters Gala**

### **Michael Bernard opened the floor for discussion from guests.**

- Frances Levine speaking on behalf of the coaches
  - Coaches are upset that they haven't gotten paid.
  - The science coach said he will not come back until until he is paid
  - The ELA coach said it does not make fiscal sense to to remain a part of the team if the work is cut down to one day per week.
- Virginia Connelly (on behalf of CEI)
  - Once Summit began making payments to CEI, consultants were paid

- Current rate to keep consultants costs \$45,000 per month. Summit payments are in or around \$31,000 per month
- Ms. Handshaw, Mr. Edwards, and Mr. Hughes have been seeking to identify funds to cover the additional costs

### **III. Closing Items**

#### **A. Adjourn Meeting**

There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:39 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,  
N. Campbell