APPROVED

Summit Academy Charter School

Minutes

March Board Meeting

Date and Time
Tuesday March 26, 2024 at 6:00 PM

Trustees Present
A. Murray (remote), A. Young (remote), C. McCants (remote), L. Almonte (remote), M. Bernard, V. Connelly (remote)

Trustees Absent
K. Montgomery, M. Nieves, S. Pérez-Sadler

Ex Officio Members Present
T. Price

Guests Present
Digant Bahl, Everette Hughes (remote), Frances Levine (remote), Jacqueline McDonald (remote), Juned Haque (remote), M. Kohlhagen (remote), M. Spencer-Edwards, N. Campbell, S. Handshaw, Sharod Tomlinson (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. **Record Attendance**

B. **Call the Meeting to Order**

M. Bernard called a meeting of the board of trustees of Summit Academy Charter School to order on Tuesday Mar 26, 2024 at 6:07 PM.

C. Approve Minutes

L. Almonte made a motion to approve the minutes from February Board Meeting on 02-27-24.
C. McCants seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

II. Finance

A. February Financials

- 3 Million in the bank
- The current deficit is (**$43,015)**. The (**$78,090)** is the YTD cash deficit
- We projected a deficit of (**$559,349)** in the budget
- The new deficit is **($446,956)** based on **242 FTE** students
- We will actually be breakeven with **270 FTE** based on our projections.
- We currently have about 260 scholars as of now but because most of them started during the year, they will not be counted as a full time equivalent. For example, if 20 students start in January which means they missed about 50% of the school year then they would be counted as 10 FTE (50% of 20 students)
- Expect the budget to balance out 2024 - 2025 and possible surplus

Lottie asked if our current anticipated deficit will make the school fiscally unsound. Dighant was able respond. Given the reserve and cash on hand, the school is sustainable.

III. Academic Achievement

A. Principal's Report

Personnel

- In need of one Spanish teacher

Enrollment

- MS has 94 and HS has 165
- There is a drop in our number because some of our migrant scholars have been moved out of state. The 2 in middle school are migrant families that were displaced and in high school some of our over aged, under credited scholars shifted to alternative schools.

Recruitment Tools

- **Website Revisions**
  - **www.sacsny.com**
- Ramped up social media campaign with new videos and pictures posted regularly.
- Using social media to celebrate Women's History Month and attract new followers
- Publicizing Girls Basketball accomplishments
  - Borough Champions in PSAL
  - PSAL Division I Champions
- WPIX News 11 Segment to air on April 2, 2024
- News 12 segment that aired on March 19, 2024 (https://drive.google.com/file/d/1atymC_YQEsthfS_W9xcIJyBksEzrUA8O/view?usp=drive_link)

Upcoming MS Exams

- Grade 6 & 7- ELA PBT- April 10 - April 12
- Grade 8- ELA CBT- April 15 - April 19
- Grade 8- Math CBT- May 6 - May 10
- Grade 6 & 7- Math PBT- May 7 - May 9
- Grade 8 Science CBT- May 13 - May 17

Hosted 8th grade curriculum night to engage families in what is to come (regents) and encourage SACS high school enrollment.

SACS Gala

- Encouraging board members to attend, purchase a table, or donate tickets.
- Michael has asked the board to purchase a table and donate tickets to scholars to attend.

IV. Renewal Review

A. The Process thus far

Erin Cochran, The Senior Executive Director of the Office of Nonpublic and Charter Schools reached out to myself board the Board Chair. In their email they asked some follow-up questions to their visit and the renewal application along with some next steps in this process. In order to ensure they had the information needed to advance our school's potential renewal recommendation on the May Board of Regents meeting timelines, we submitted various documents that were due on this past Friday at 5pm.

They informed us that they are aiming for a May Board of Regents, which has some tight upcoming deadlines with the Easter holiday. They tentatively plan to send a draft board of regents item on Monday for turnaround within 48 hours. These documents are quite short

and will mostly include the data we have already shared. When we share that they will also share additional information on the renewal decision and charter agreement. Ms. Cochran is requesting a 2-3 hour-long blocks on 3/27 and 3/28 for the board to join a recommendation call. I informed them that I am available to have this call on Thursday from 1-4pm. Please let me know if that works for the board. I need to inform her of the meeting time this evening.

Meeting with DOE and board on Thursday, March 28, 2024.

V. Governance

A. Board Expansion

We have a recommendation for Board Candidacy, Dr. Sharod Tomlinson

- Career changer; began in stocks and shifted to higher education and community services.
- Assistant VP of DEI at St. Johns University
- Focus on how to provide excellent academic setting and exposing scholars to experiences and the global world.

Questions & Answers

Where do you fit into the enhancement of Summit?
I am interested in adding resources and bringing information to SACS so that students will be successful when they get to college. Helping to bridge the gap in the MS and HS experience and figuring out how to fill the gap.

Do you have the time to be an active board member?
I am willing and able to be present at board meetings.

A. Murray made a motion to accept Dr. Sharod Tomlinson as a candidate for the SACS Board of Trustees.
A. Young seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VI. CEI Report

A. February Report

Everette Hughes is present and can share what has been going on in the building. Two coaches Frances Levine and Jacqueline McDonald are also present and contribute.

- Everything is going well. There is measurable changes in the practice of teachers.

- Feedback from teachers is somewhat positive. Coaches will continue to support teachers in the way that garners scholar growth.
- Expect improvement in test scores based on the work of the coaches.

Question: Has everyone been paid? Yes

VII. 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 7:12 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
M. Bernard