

Summit Academy Board of Trustees

1225 E 13200 South

Draper, UT 84020

February 15, 2024

7:00 PM

(APPROVED)

**Welcome**

The meeting was called to order at 7:07 pm with Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis

**Public Comment**

No Public Comment

**Consent Agenda**

Board Meeting Minutes Review

**A Motion to approve the Summit Academy Board Meeting Minutes for January 18, 2024 for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Chelsea Welch**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, and Peter Baxter**

**Motion carries**

Welcome Board Member Tracy Ellis

We want to welcome Tracy Ellis to the Summit Academy Board and we invite her to join the board at the Boardroom Table.

Tracy Ellis is a clinical psychologist that practices in South Jordan. She has 2 daughters that attend the Draper campus. She lives five minutes up the road and she loves the Jazz. She saw the flier to apply and wanted to contribute in a meaningful way. Her grandmother was a principal and on the State board of education. She wants to contribute the best that she can.

**Director’s Report** (Dr. Molly Hart)

We have been holding our Open Houses. We are doing a number of media pushes. We understand that word of mouth is our most valuable resource and we realize that.

Enrollment data per campus

Enrollment is of most interest to us right now. We need to accept 172 students at Draper. That number at Draper would get us to 718. We have 215 on the lottery list. We have 157 at Independence and we have 198 on the waiting list. That would put us at 897. We need 159 at Bluffdale and have 222 on the lottery list which would bring us to 603. Summit Academy High is growing. We have several on the waiting list and the lottery list, and high school is our greatest increase. Lindy Hatch states that 55% of the students in 8th grade at the Draper campus are going to the SA high school. We may have a different space problem at the High School. Angela Grimmer is excused from the meeting this evening. Bob Zentner is asking why the numbers are so good. Director Hart reminds him that lottery applications don't necessarily mean a student will register. At the high school, the numbers are good because the high school has a good program with fabulous teachers with small classes and a small graduating class. The surrounding High Schools are huge. They may come for one reason or another, but they stay for the academics there. She is providing opportunities not available at other surrounding high schools.

Academic Update

We are in the last week of our Weda testing. Those tests are for our English Language learners. We have some other assessments going on. The high school is gearing up for all the different tests that happen at this time of year there.

Discipline/Safety

We have some water issues at the Draper campus. With the storms last week, we had some water coming down the walls. Jon Eborn thought that we had taken care of that. Lindy Hatch mentions that the roof wasn’t replaced, it was just patched and so there are new problems.

This summer, we are going ahead with the remodeling of the Draper Campus Elementary. They will begin construction the day after school lets out this summer. Bob Zentner is asking why he didn’t hear Alysha’s name, and he wanted to confirm that she was involved. Ms. Hart stated that she is absolutely involved. Chelsea Welch wants to make sure that the finance numbers for the project will be confirmed.

Chelsea Welch asked about the conversation about replacing the roof at Draper and is wondering what the status is on that. Brad Wilkinson mentions that they will have a new contractor come out and look at the situation to see what the recommendations are to fix the problems. Director Hart is not interested in having more water problems because that will cause new issues that will add more expenses to take care of.

**Finance Report -** Brad Wilkinson

It has been a long year between the merger and the bonds. Thank you to everyone for your support this year. We are now in the time of the school year where we are dipping into two different school years. We have had all of our budget meetings. The legislature is still in session. There are over 150 different education bills on the table up at the legislature at this time, so there are a lot of changes that could happen that would affect the budget. There is a lot of movement going on. Ms. Hart lets the board know that this year they have the least tax receipts since before the pandemic and that there would be cuts to funding from the state, they just don’t know what programs will be cut. We haven’t had to cut programs yet, but there will be cuts. We just don’t know where they will be. We will rely on Molly and the administrative team as we get the final word from Capital hill and make the necessary changes. This will be a unique year where programs may possibly be cut.

This year you have the financial statement in front of you. We are mostly green. There are only a few red areas, and those are just timing issues that will be resolved. They are all reimbursement based. Our purchase services are a little bit high. We have the fire department and HVAC that has to come out. Pay attention to the left hand side. That money was deferred from last year. We are super healthy, that looks really great. Six million dollars is ERC money. It is one time money and we are not spending it. It could go away, or it could stay. If it stays, we are planning to use it for capital improvements at each campus. We are taking the assumption that we may lose that money. We have talked to legal firms and specialists. Royce sent a letter that shows all indicators that Charter Schools will be able to use that money, but we just don’t know for sure. If we lose it, we are still at a six million dollar increase. We are taking the conservative approach. Our hope is that we get to keep it. We have 241 days cash on hand in unrestricted cash which is extremely healthy.

The top right shows our bond metrics, and we need to pay attention to that carefully. The merger was very healthy for all campuses as a whole. That is a nice benefit to us all. Bob Zentner asks if we grow in numbers for next year what does that do for us. Brad states that it just depends on which campus and how many. The numbers depend on how much additional staff that we need. We are building a budget around the students that have said yes, and that they are coming to our school next year. We will adjust as numbers are confirmed. Molly Hart mentions that the number that she mentioned earlier is based on the current staff that the school has at this time. This year we had minor growth. We had an overall growth, which helped. Jon Eborn clarifies the difference between 4.9 million in 2023 to 6.1 in 2024. Brad states that those numbers only included Summit Academy at that time and that now that we have merged, it changes the number. Joel Woodruff likes the way that the enrollment numbers are listed on the front page. The safety grant was approved. It is around $70,000.00. Once that is approved, I will add the revenues in. Right now we are in the positive, but are planning a little more if the costs come in higher than expected. Then we will do some budget revisions.

**Discussion and Action item to review**

990 Acceptance - Brad Wilkinson

This is most of your packet pages. We are tax exempt. It is an informational tax return. It gives a lot of data about administration, salaries, how many hours board members are putting in. It is hard data. It is interesting. This year there are two. There will be again next year, and hopefully the next year after that there will be only one. The IRS looks at everything on a calendar year. It is six months of one school year and six months of the next school year. Bob Zentner verifies that this happens every year.

Jon Eborn accepts both of the Summit Academy and Summit Academy High School 990’s.

SY24-25 Calendar Final - Director Hart

This is the second review of the calendar. There were a lot of good suggestions. We moved the end of the quarter from the 14th back to the 10th. You don’t want to end on a Monday. A couple of days were not colored the correct color, so the calendar is ready to go now. Even though the number of days looks equal, it isn’t necessarily equal due to testing days and other activities. The other date mentioned was the date the FAFSA form opens. They are very much like taxes. There isn’t an advantage to moving the date. There isn’t an advantage to moving the date. They are working on next year's calendar now, so that families can make plans farther in advance. The Spring Break is always tricky for our schools. Bob asks about the PDD day on January 6th. The staff really likes it because they know they will have prep time when they go back to school rather than have them do it during their vacation days.

**A Motion to approve the 2024-2025 Summit Academy School Calendar for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Bob Zentner**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Trust Land- Director Hart

The Trust Land entity is having real issues with their accounting program and it is a mess at this time. It is not our fault, it is just an issue that the state is working on with this website. The money was spent and the reports were done accurately. The state is working with us to get the website straightened out. This is the final report that the board has to accept. Bob Zentner asks what Digital Citizenship is. The schools are required to teach those things per the Land Trust requirements. That money is a separate pot of money managed by the Trust Land Group. Bob Zentner is asking about the explanation about the use of funds for Draper. He is asking about digital education and Lindy Hatch explains what they do and Molly Hart verifies that every campus is required to teach that. Jon Eborn would like a cover letter attached in the future.

**A Motion to approve the Land Trust Final Plan report 2022-2023 for the Bluffdale Campus of Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman**

**A second was given by Chelsea Welch**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

**A Motion to approve the Land Trust Final Plan report 2022-2023 for the Draper Campus of Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Bob Zentner**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

**A Motion to approve the Land Trust Final Plan report 2022-2023 for the Independence Campus of Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Chelsea Welch**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

**A Motion to approve the Land Trust Final Plan report 2022-2023 for the Summit Academy High School of Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Elizabeth Lau**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Board Member Peter Baxter is being excused to catch a flight and will join the meeting electronically through TEAMS.

LEA Specific Licensing

There is just one individual and the state requested a resubmission for requirements, and we are obligated to let the board know. Molly Hart believes that perhaps the paperwork was just lost.

**A Motion to approve the LEA Specific Licenses for Summit Academy Schools was given by Chelsea Welch.**

**A second was given by Marcia Whitman**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

High School Travel Oceanography - Molly Hart

The Oceanography club would like to go to California to get real life experience with the ocean. The trip will be paid for by student fundraisers and it is on the fee schedule. All of the paperwork is in order. They want the opportunity to experience the ocean. It is unique to Summit. Other schools don’t have this.

**A Motion to approve the travel for the Oceanography class for Summit Academy Schools was given by Bob Zentner.**

**A second was given by Marcia Whitman**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Cheer Pre Approval Basketball State Playoffs- Molly Hart

This is the cheer team to travel with the boy’s basketball team. The vibe is just really neat. They had a mini cheer team there. They are 6, 7, and 8 year old girls from Summit cheering. The Summit Cheer team was also there. The other team didn’t have a cheer team there. She was really impressed with all of the thought going into what Summit does.

**A Motion to approve the Travel plan for the Cheer team to go with the Basketball team to the State playoffs for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman.**

**A second was given by Chelsea Welch**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Boys/Girls Pre Approval Basketball State Playoffs

Those are long rides back and forth from Richfield and they would like to stay overnight there. Bob Zentner is asking about the athletic director. There is a new rule that the athletic director must attend all of the athletic events. It is a very good move. There are a lot of expectations to manage. Ms. Grimmer and Ms. Hart have been having discussions regarding compensation to the Athletic Director due to the new requirements which require a lot more of his time and workload.

**A Motion to approve the UHSSA pre Approval Travel for the Boys/Girls Basketball State Playoffs Tournament Boys and Girls overnight stays for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman**

**A second was given by Bob Zentner**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Debate State Tournament -

The Debate team would like approval to travel to Price March 15th and 16th and stay overnight in Price. Scott Petit is the coach for the debate team.

**A Motion to approve Travel for the Debate State Tournament Boys and Girls overnight stays for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman**

**A second was given by Elizabeth Lau**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

Dr. Molly Hart wanted to bring attention to the fact that we had just as many non athletic opportunities for students as athletic opportunities and this is part of what makes Summit so unique.

**Committee Reports**

Academic Committee - None

Finance Committee - None

Audit Committee- None

Governance Committee- None

Development Committee-

This is partly out of Development and Executive committee’s. Jon Eborn would like to figure out how to have a bigger room for the board meetings. He would like the administration to figure out how to do that. Molly Hart reminds them that we need to keep the location here. Jon asks if we can expand into the next room. He would like to figure out how to expand the area. The auditorium doesn’t really work. He is hoping that a solution could be figured out. Elizabeth Lau asks if the location could be changed, and Dr. Hart says that it can’t be changed with the State. Dr. Hart says that they will look at some different options. Chelsea Welch felt like the meeting changed in the auditorium. It became more like a presentation and became a community meeting. We have to be able to cast and record and all the rest. Elizabeth Lau asks if there is a budget for this project. Jon Eborn gives this idea to the Director and the rest of the team.

Jon Eborn had a conversation with the developers of “The Point Development”. There are schools being built there. There may be room for expansion. Jon is wanting to know if there is any interest to expand in Bluffdale for another High School. The idea is to Build another building for the High School in Bluffdale, and turn the current high school into a Junior High. Jon is just wanting to know if there is any interest. Chelsea Welch isn’t saying that she isn’t Not interested, but unless there is solid information she is a solid NO. She has a history of a lot of the why’s and how's of adding campuses in the past and not really excited to do that again. She isn’t trying to be over dramatic, but there would need to be a lot of soul searching to be done to even give the thought to expanding. Bob Zentner adds to that the history of public schools being added in the past and taking away enrollment. Bob reminds them that the Draper campus helped to keep the High School a float. Bob is nervous about changing too soon. Chelsea Welch mentions that going forward, there is a time cost at this point. Jon Eborn says that Jordan is not expanding, and Draper is. Jon is looking at it as a business. There may be an opportunity, and he is an optimist. He can gather more details and he can put the idea to bed. He needs two more people to say that it is a bad idea. Marcia is a little more interested in more information. Troy Walker states that it will be a very specialized STEM High School as part of “The Point Development”. Brad says that from a business perspective, it wouldn’t hurt to just check into it. He is hesitant not knowing if students would come. He thinks that it would be wise to look into it. Jon, Robyn, and Liz will look into some bond deals, and what is available. Joel mentions that “The Point Development” hasn’t ever been done in the state or the Nation so no one really knows what is going to happen. Jon says that they could explore and then nine months down the road they could say that it isn’t going to happen.

Jon Eborn is going to meet with Tracy Ellis to get her all of the paperwork and information for her position on the board. Jon would like board members to let him know if they have a desire to serve in leadership positions and he would nominate them at the next board meeting.

## **Board Business**

Action Items -

Board Attendance to upcoming Staff Meeting

Jon Eborn would like to know when the next board meetings are so that the board can bring refreshments to the staff. Kim will help coordinate that and then email the board.

Legal Counsel

The legal issue has been resolved. The school has representation with Tracy Cowdell, but does not have a retainer there. Molly states that we could put someone on a retainer, but she doesn’t recommend doing that because sometimes you need to have a more specialized attorney for other things, and you don’t want to spend extra money. We are also engaged with Kirton/McConkie for Special Education matters. The new legal relationship hasn’t been determined.

Board Training - Jon hasn’t received any new information regarding scheduling trainings

Board Calendar Creation - Chelsea Welch is working with Jon on that.

**Board Meeting Assessment**

Next meeting - March 14, 2024

Individual Meeting Assessment

**Closed Session**

**A Motion to go into closed session for the purpose of discussion of the character, professional competence, or physical or mental health of an individual for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman**

**A second was given by Elizabeth Lau**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, Elizabeth Lau, Peter Baxter, and Tracy Ellis.**

**Motion carries**

**Open session resumed at 10:07 p.m.**

Peter Baxter left the meeting

**A Motion to adjourn the Summit Academy Board Meeting for Summit Academy Schools was given by Marcia Whitman**

**A second was given by Chelsea Welch**

**Vote - Yes- Jon Eborn, Chelsea Welch, Robyn Derbidge, Joel Woodruff, Bob Zentner, Marcia Whitman, and Elizabeth Lau**

**Motion carries**

**Adjourned at 10:08 p.m.**