



Bear Express

The Official Family Newsletter for Summit Charter School



December 18, 2023

Volume 17



Dear Summit Family,

As we conclude our first semester and approach our holiday break, I want to extend my deepest gratitude for the partnership and support of our staff, families, and community members in service of our students at Summit. Together, we've accomplished so much in this first half of the school year in deepening and growing our mission of **engaging students in learning experiences that stimulate discovery, inspire excellence, and nurture a positive influence in an ever-changing world.** To name just a few of the many examples of our shared impact through the first semester of the school year:

- We've grown to serve 300 students across Kindergarten through 12th grade and applications for the 2024-25 school year are currently on track to exceed any previous school year.
- We've made strides in our ongoing commitment to upholding high standards of excellence for our students, reflected in continued growth in our students' academic achievement, including:
 - On mid-year math growth assessments, our K-8 students exceeded the performance of any previous year over the four years in which we've administered the assessment with 80% of students meeting or exceeding grade level standards for the mid-year. (Students will take their mid-year reading growth assessments in January).
 - On fall ACT practice tests, our 11th graders achieved the highest average composite score of any previous 11th grade Summit class, and our 9th graders achieved the highest average composite score of any previous 9th grade Summit class
- Our senior class applied to 50 different colleges and universities across the United States--more than any previous class--and to-date has received acceptances from over 18 different colleges and counting.
- Our students have participated in 38 off-campus learning experiences between August and December, including service learning, outdoor leadership, academic field trips, and college visits.
- Our athletics program has continued to grow in both participation and performance--with record level participation in middle school and high school, a conference championship in middle school girls and boys cross country and girls volleyball, and a conference runner-up finish in middle school boys soccer.
- Our student artists and musicians showcased their many talents in our Holiday Music performance.
- The Summit Charter School Foundation led another highly successful Festival of Trees event to raise vital funds that directly support the education of our students as well as benefiting many community nonprofits and charities.
- We're continuing to make progress in expanding Summit's campus facilities to meet the needs of our growing student population, including the opening of a brand new fitness center in August and breaking ground on our new high school building, which is currently on-track to open in the fall of 2024!

We are incredibly grateful for the generosity of support from across our Summit family in service of our students that have made these accomplishments possible. We wish you the very happiest of holidays!

With gratitude,
Kurt

Support the Summit Family Fund at <https://bit.ly/47kra1b>.



FRONT OFFICE NEWS

Important Upcoming Dates

December 19: Board of Trustees Meeting 4:30

December 20: Noon Dismissal

December 21- January 3: Winter Break

January 8-12: Spirit Week

January 15: MLK Day No School

Virtue of the week:

Responsibility

"Nothing will ever change while you point the finger of blame. Out of responsibility comes possibility."

Lisa Villa Prosen

Spirit Week

Monday, Jan 8: Movie Monday

Dress as your favorite movie character!

Tuesday, Jan 9: Time Travel Tuesday

Dress from your favorite decade!

Wednesday, Jan 10: Western Wednesday

Dress in your best Western wear!

Thursday, Jan 11: Spirit Day!

Dress in your favorite spirit wear to cheer on our teams!

Friday, Jan 12: Color Wars!

Dress in your assigned color!



Mountain Theatre Company Student Ticket Program

All local students of Macon, Jackson, Transylvania, and Rabun Counties under the age of 18 receive FREE tickets to all Mountain Theatre Company productions in Highlands, NC when accompanied by at least one adult.

HOME FOR THE HOLIDAYS is currently playing through December 24th.

Mountain Theatre Company has created a whole new production of their annual holiday spectacular this year. The story begins on Christmas Eve, and spirits are low across the globe. Join a ragtag group of elves who come together to broadcast their annual North Pole holiday show live to the whole world to raise Christmas spirits and save the joy of the season. Fun for all ages, this festive original musical features dazzling costumes, high energy choreography, and is sure to fill audiences with plenty of good, old-fashioned holiday cheer!

These complimentary Green Level tickets can be reserved in advance by calling the Mountain Theatre Company Box Office: 828-526-2695.



**SUMMIT SPIRIT HOODIES
HAVE BEEN RESTOCKED
WITH NEW COLORS!!
COOL WEATHER IS
COMING -
PLACE YOUR ORDER
TODAY!**

\$25 Youth \$30 Adult

SIZES: Youth Small, Youth Medium, Youth Large, Adult S, Adult M, Adult L, Adult XL, Adult XXL

**TRUE NAVY, HUNTER GREEN, RED & LIGHT
BLUE AND YELLOW GOLD!**

WATER BOTTLES

Nalgene Sustain 32oz Wide Mouth - \$25



HATS

Beanies - \$15



To Place an order -

Go Online:

[https://summitschool.
revtrak.net/ss/#/list](https://summitschool.revtrak.net/ss/#/list)

Email Receipt to
Frontoffice@summitschool.org

Pick up at the school front
office!

BRACELETS

Pure Vida
Live Free Bracelet- \$10
(in Summit Colors)

