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Today's Students -



Tomorrow's Graduates.



Tomorrow is looking good.



**The Summit Academy
Annual Report**

Managing Editor

Graphic Designer:

Abbe Pedersen

Contributing Writers:

Abbe Pedersen

Marla Cautilli

David Strite

Photography:

Terri Kolter

Abbe Pedersen

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If you would like to receive this publication electronically, please email:

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2007/2008

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Our Mission

Summit Academy provides a nurturing educational environment for students with learning differences, in which each student's academic achievement comes to reflect his or her learning potential.

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Volunteers

Many thanks to our parents, grandparents, and community volunteers for the precious gift of their time. Volunteers logged over 700 hours of work on behalf of Summit Academy's students this year! Special recognition goes to PTO Officers - Johnna Cristofoli, President, Jenny Segin, Vice President, Jessica Daunhauer, Treasurer and Sharon Elliott, Secretary.

Thank you all for your invaluable assistance with the Mountaintop Breakfast, the Celebrate the Difference Gala, office work, fieldtrips, serving lunch, making centerpieces, sponsoring clubs, hosting classroom parties, decorating floats, selling concessions, shelving library books, and so much more - **we couldn't do it without you!**



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**Thank you all
for your generosity!**

“Summit Academy on the right track . . .”

Dear Friends of Summit Academy,

As the fall presidential election draws near, political commercials touting each prospective candidate's experience and accomplishments will surely reach unbearable levels. Undoubtedly, more seasoned politicians will attempt to capitalize on their opponents' lack of a proven track record. Apparently, the average American finds a certain level of comfort in a known commodity. Nevertheless, voters will frequently take a leap of faith by electing a young and inexperienced candidate. History has taught us that entrusting our leadership to a neophyte with new ideas and a fresh perspective can sometimes prove to be a risky proposition. Choosing the incumbent is generally a considered a "safer" decision.

In August of 1992, twenty-one families took a brave step by entrusting the future of their children to an upstart school with no known track record. There was no campus to tour, no web page to peruse and certainly no students or parents to consult. With no "word on the street" to rely on, their decision to enroll at Summit was based solely on a belief that there had to be a better way to educate children that learn differently. As the parent of a Summit child, I know first-hand about the anxiety that goes into choosing the best educational environment for your child. I can only hope that my wife and I would have had the foresight to appreciate that something magical was on the horizon. My hat goes off to those early parents, students and educators who had the wisdom to take a chance on a school with an abundance of passion and knowledge, but no proven results to market.

Sixteen years later, parents now have the luxury of examining Summit's remarkable success before enrolling their children. Today the campus is filled to capacity with nearly 160 students and 47 teachers and staff. Tours are available which offer the opportunity to witness the learning environment firsthand. Summit events frequently showcase alumni who proudly share their individual success stories. Most of Summit's inaugural class have since gone on to graduate from high school and college, and are now starting to make a difference in the world.

At the last Board of Trustees meeting, Margaret Thornton shared a recent letter from the Trinity High School administration. (See "High School Highs" on page 5) As a father of a Summit student, the news they had to share with us about Summit graduates was of great encouragement; as the Board President, it was a testament to the wisdom of those first parents and the efficacy of Summit Academy's programs. It is these types of results that have made the shortage of classroom space one of the primary challenges faced by our current Board.

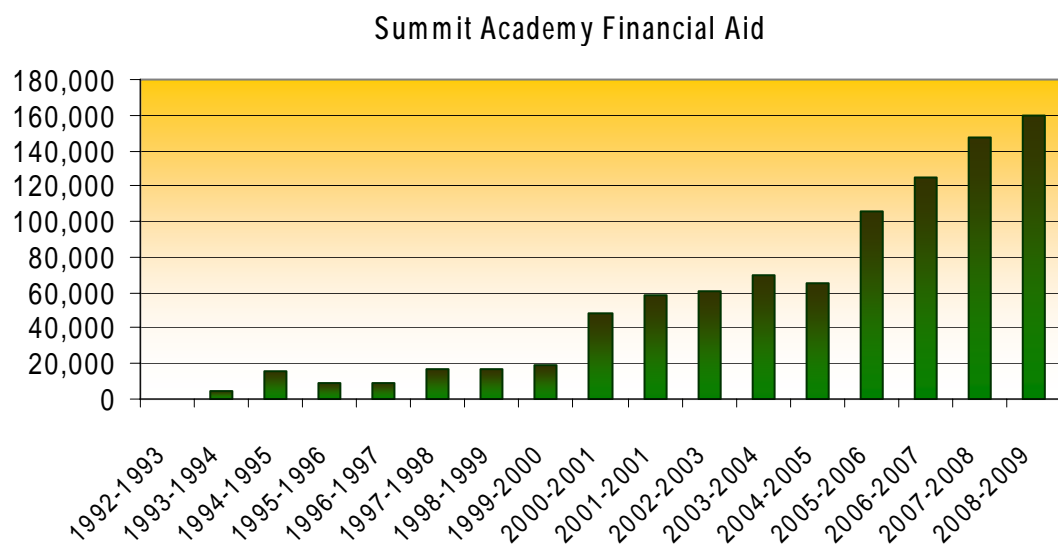
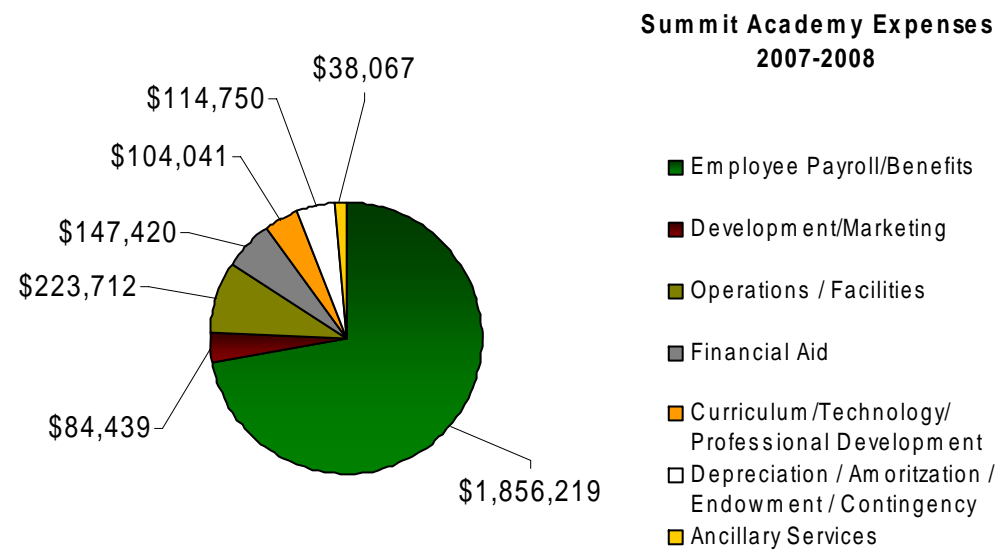
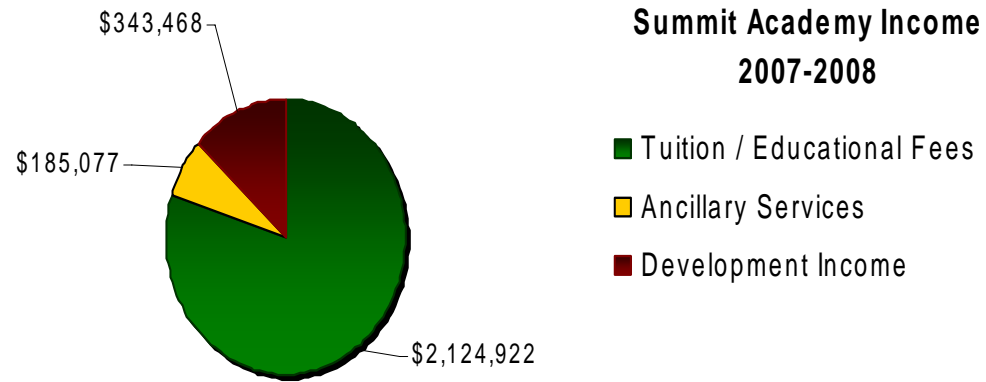
The achievements of our current and former students makes the decision to choose Summit an easy one. Unlike the political commercials that will bombard the airways this fall, I personally will never tire of hearing stories touting the "track record" of our now somewhat seasoned institution. Clearly the future is bright for all children of the Summit family.

Sincerely,
David Strite
Father of Matthew - 6th grade, and President of the Board of Trustees

From
the
President
of
the
Board
of
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Summit
Academy
by
the
Numbers



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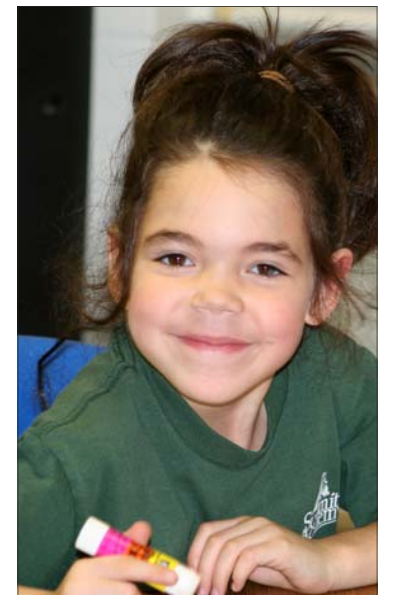
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Summit Academy PTO
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Thomas and Margaret Thornton
John and Mary Tierney
James and Deborah Towson
In memory of Jack and Elizabeth Sands
Paul and Lynn Tran

High School Highs

Two local high schools who have a number of currently enrolled Summit graduates were kind enough to share some statistics with us.

- At St. Xavier High School, two Summit alums made the 4th quarter honor roll for 2007-2008!
- Of the 24 Summit grads attending Trinity High School, the 2007-2008 average GPA was 3.32. The highest grade point average was achieved by 2007 Summit Academy graduate, James Holland, with an outstanding GPA of 4.0. Way to go, James!

We are very proud of all of our Summit Alums -

**Amazing
Alums!**

College Credits

by Jessica Ulmer

My name is Jessica Ulmer and I graduated from 8th grade at Summit Academy in 2000. It was during my four years at Summit that I was taught to recognize my auditory processing and attention disorders, and how to remediate for them.

This way of learning was continued at Assumption High School. The (P.S.P.) "Post Secondary Planning" program was there to continue the process of learning to use the accommodations in a regular classroom. I graduated from Assumption in 2004, and it was a bit nerve racking looking for a college, knowing that it wasn't going to be like Summit or Assumption.

However, St. Catharine College, was small enough and designed to provide accommodation for whatever my learning needs required. I earned my associate's degree in Philosophy. Then it was time to move on to a university and I decided to attend Northern Kentucky University when I found that they offered a learning disabilities program.

I'm majoring in Journalism and about to enter into my third year at NKU. One of the biggest lessons I've learned is that faculty and staff are willing to help; I have to be the one to ask for it. My career plans are to write for a magazine and/or newspaper, but I could not have done any of this without the great start I got at Summit Academy.

I thank all the donors who support the school; you are helping a lot of kids who need a school that understands their learning challenges and knows how to help.



(L to R) Stephen Mucci (Summit Class of 2007), Neal Hesler (Summit Class of 2002), Mark Mucci (Summit Class of 2000), Jessica Ulmer (Summit Class of 2000).

The Soaring Eagle Society



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Robert and Midge Jones

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Established in 2004, the **Soaring Eagle Society** has grown to 91 members. Soaring Eagle Society Members have made multi-year pledges at our annual Mountaintop Breakfast of \$1,000 or more per year for five years. These multi-year pledges allow us to confidently plan for the future and are invaluable to Summit Academy's mission.

Thank you to all of our very generous Soaring Eagles!

Doug and Jill Keeney

Henry and Deborah Kelsey, Jr.

Alan Kirschenbaum and Lynn Cooper

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New

Soaring Eagle Society Members

are shown in bold.