

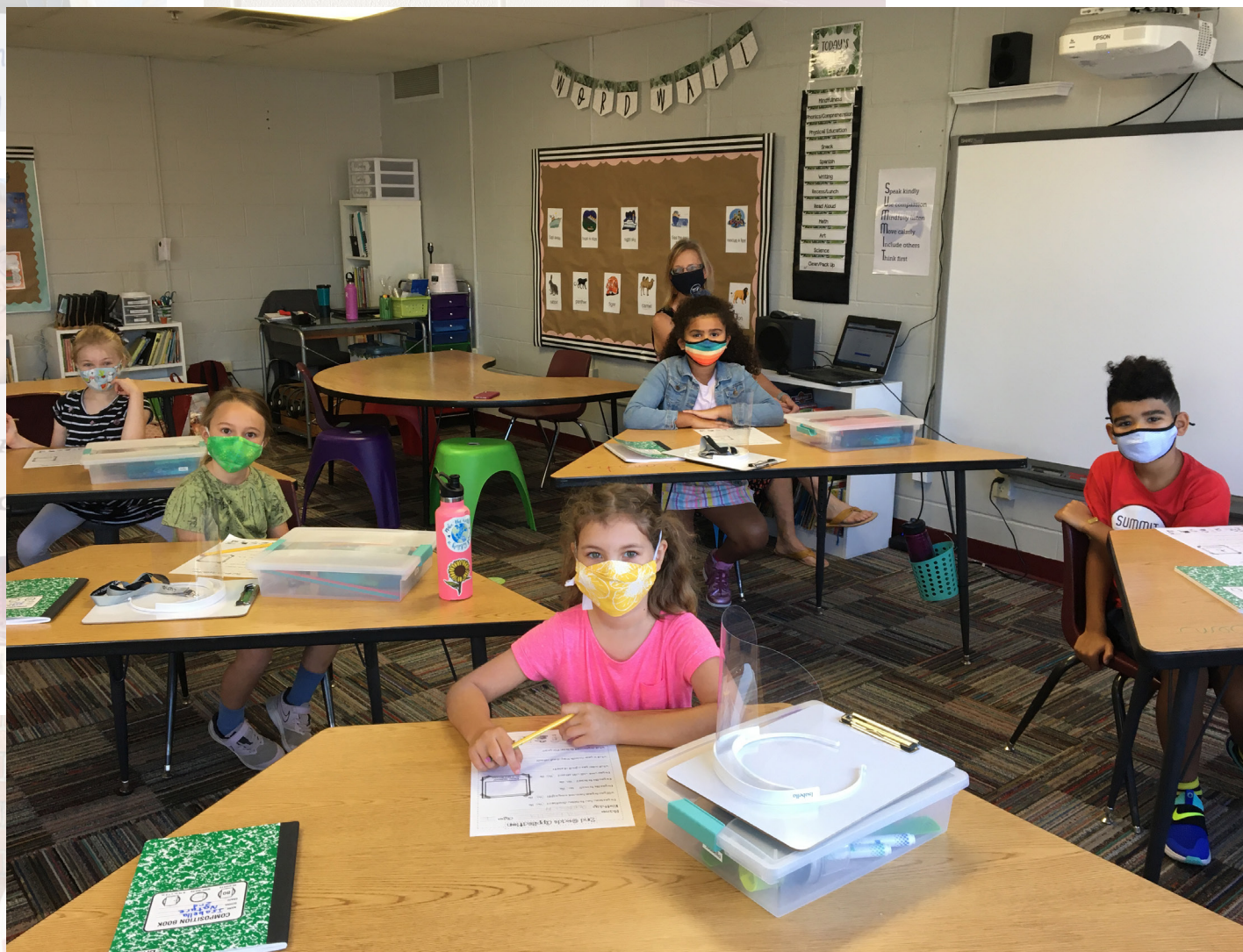


2020-2021

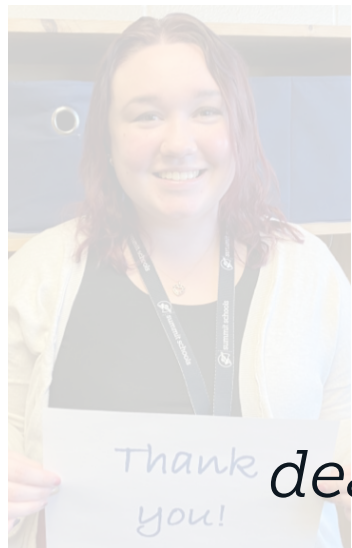
summit strong

community report

Thank
you!



brilliant beginnings, bright futures



a letter from the head of schools

dear friends of **summit schools,**

Summit Schools 2020-21 school year was like no other. Reopening school safely in the midst of a pandemic and following a natural disaster challenged our Summit family, but I could not be more proud of the resilience shown by our community as we pulled together to make this school year a success. With strict safety mitigation measures in place, Summit successfully reopened for in-person learning throughout the school year, except for one week where we proactively transitioned online after the Thanksgiving fall break.

Connecting virtually was how Summit reached out to the community in 2020-21. Our annual "Celebrate Summit" fundraising concert event and two community panels in our Summit Series discussion series were all live streamed. "Untying the Knot, the Importance of Cultural Inclusion in the Classroom" featured acclaimed writers Sandra Cisneros and Randy Ribay; and "Moving Toward OUR History: The Importance of an Inclusive Curriculum" showcased a diverse panel of local leaders. These important and timely discussions led to even more in-depth conversations in our families' homes and communities. Summit crafted our statement of inclusion as the events in our country highlighted the need to address issues of social justice and equity.

Each day Summit strives to be a safe place for students to learn and to simply be who they are. Our school is filled with students and faculty from different socio-economic backgrounds, religions, genders, and political identities. In a world quick to divide based on these differences, Summit seeks to bring people together to discuss, challenge, and



ultimately respect each other with greater understanding and empathy.

Schools can and should be a safe place—following a natural disaster, in the midst of a global pandemic, and as tough social issues are examined in our society. Summit remains steadfast in our mission of ensuring a lifetime of success and personal fulfillment, and we are incredibly proud to be a safe place for all in our community.

Respectfully,
Paul G. Pressler, Principal/Head of School



2020-21

2020-21 summit staff

Paul Pressler, *Principal/Head of School*
 Larisa Bickel, *Director of Business & Operations*
 Kathleen Reinwart, *Office Manager*
 Catharine Johnson, *Accountant*
 Tonya Trudo, *Director of Marketing & Communications*
 Christina Anderson, *Tutor Manager*
 Rachel Eilers, *Kitchen Manager*
 Chris Maloney, *Early Childhood Teacher*
 Erin Valarezo, *Early Childhood Associate*
 Emily Fleming, *Primary Teacher*
 Sue Menken, *Primary Teacher*
 Shawna Walker, *Intermediate Teacher*
 Angie Neuville, *Middle School Teacher*
 Teresa Coleman, *Middle School Teacher*
 Jamie Day, *Physical Education/Health/Wellness Teacher*
 Andrea Happel, *Spanish Teacher*
 Amber Maas, *Art Teacher/Summer Camp Director*
 Pat Akers, *Tutor*

board of trustees

Front row (left to right): Dan Clark, *Vice President*; Terri Petersen, *Board Emeritus*; Matt Doty
Back row (left to right): Chris Graw, *Past President*; Virginia Michalicek; Laurene Lanich; Paly Afridi, *President*
Not pictured: Lynn Davy, *Secretary*; Camron Devor, *Treasurer*; Christopher Parker



mission

Summit Schools empowers each student to exceed their academic, social, and emotional goals to ensure a lifetime of success and personal fulfillment.



vision

Empowering individuals to succeed in the global community by fostering critical thinking, problem solving, and creativity both independently and collaboratively.



summit damaged by *derecho*

On August 10, 2020, Eastern Iowa experienced a derecho. Summit staff were at the school busily preparing for the Return to Learn Academy that was to begin two days later, and they quickly huddled in emergency locations as the storm raged on.

Summit's campus and building were both damaged during the storm, electricity was lost for over a week, and extensive cleanup efforts continued for several weeks. Summit's Return to Learn Academy was cancelled and the first day of school was pushed back a week and half to September 3. Summit lost several trees, the roof was damaged, windows were broken during the storm leading to water damage inside the building, and Summit's rental house next to campus was completely destroyed and eventually razed.

Summit appreciated the help from our families and supporters who assisted with the cleanup efforts.

der.ech.o [dǎ'rā, CHō] noun

A straight-line windstorm (also known as a *land hurricane*) – with wind speeds up to 140 mph causing widespread damage.



\$2,000

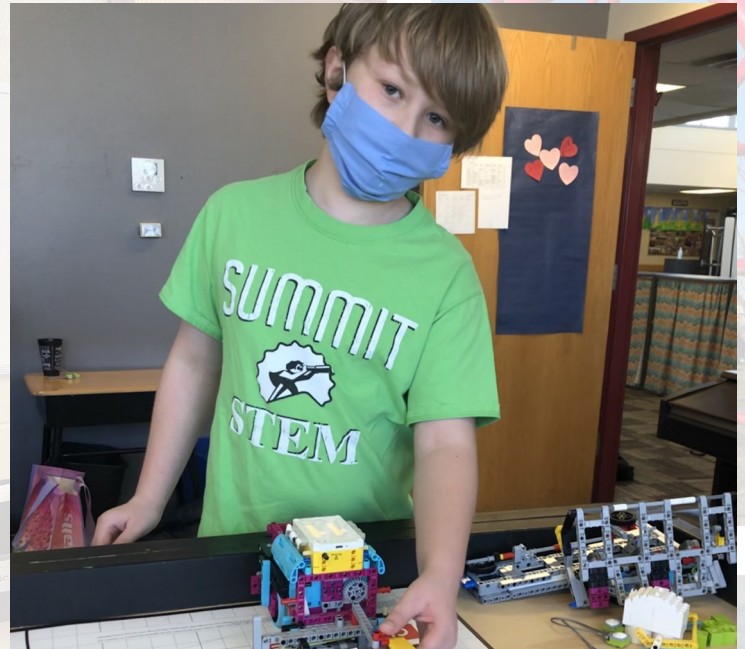
derecho insurance deductibles
(school and rental property)

LEGO® league gets *moving!*

With safety measures in place, Summit's LEGO® League enjoyed a terrific year of learning and competition in 2020-21. An important part of LEGO® League for students is creating ideas, solving problems, and overcoming obstacles, while gaining confidence in their abilities to positively use technology. *What a great lesson to learn in the midst of a global pandemic!*

"We are team Summit Curiosity and this is our Innovation project," explained 5th grader Hayley Morris. "We noticed that people are not moving enough so we are taking matters into our own hands. We have created Move Maps for people to exercise in a fun way." Students' Move Maps featured local parks and they promoted them to the Summit community to get up and moving.

Summit's LEGO® League Teams then competed virtually in the **Iowa FIRST® LEGO® League Challenge Championships**, a robotics and research competition, presented by the Iowa State College of Engineering. Summit volunteer/parent/board member Dan Clark also received a well-deserved Coach/Mentor Award. "Both teams did a fabulous job presenting to the judges," praised fellow coach/middle school teacher Teresa Coleman. ***Congrats to our Summit students and volunteers on a great season!***



summit by the numbers

25%

tuition reduction to help families during the pandemic

100%

of students received tuition reduction

170

days of in-person education offered

8

weeks of in-person summer camps open to all local children

2020-21 financials

Summit's Board of Trustees issued a significant Grow Summit credit/tuition reduction for 2020-21 tuition to meet the needs of current families, and to make Summit more affordable for many prospective local families who wanted a smaller school and a strong academic program following the pandemic's disruptions to learning.

fiscal year 2020-21
revenue

\$1,037,560^{.74}

tuition: **57%**
auxiliary programs*: **27%**
development/ donations: **14%**
state funds/ grants: **2%**

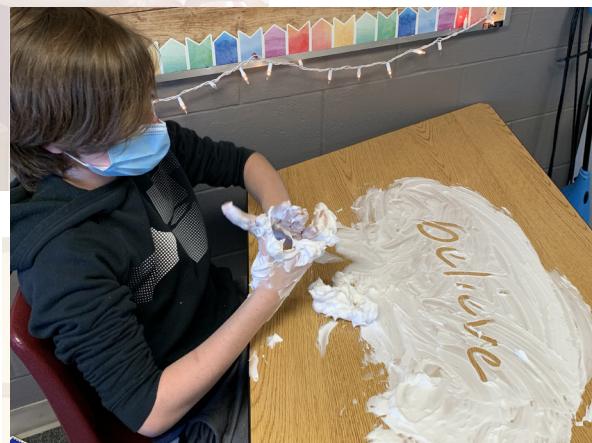
fiscal year 2020-21
expenses

\$1,050,756^{.81}

wages & benefits: **66%**
auxiliary programs*: **13%**
admin expenses: **8%**
materials & supplies: **8%**
utilities & maintenance: **5%**



\$41,000 raised
over **\$100,000**
fundraising goal





community events: online & outside

Summit went virtual to reach out to the community in 2020-21, hosting Summit Series online events, a virtual fundraising holiday concert, live streamed graduation, and several virtual Town Halls with Summit families and staff to keep our community connected.

The virtual **Summit Series** events were "Untying the Knot, the Importance of Cultural Inclusion in the Classroom" featuring acclaimed writers Sandra Cisneros and Randy Ribay; and "Moving Toward OUR History: The Importance of an Inclusive Curriculum" showcasing a diverse panel of local leaders.

Summit's annual adult fundraising event, **Celebrate Summit**, was moved online and featured holiday songs with Midwest musician Luke Spehar, spotlights on Summit families, and an online auction.

Summit also hosted an informative online presentation about the benefits of Orton-Gillingham (the multisensory reading method used at Summit), and highlighting **Summit's tutoring program**, which is open to all area students.



Summit's student-led **Fun Run** fundraiser broke all goals and raised over **\$46,000**. Summit's annual outdoor event culminated with the traditional run around the track and a 26-foot rock climbing wall experience (which students earned when they hit the **\$25,000** fundraising mark). Families were invited to cheer on their students and celebrate their accomplishments. Monies raised during the Fun Run helped to pay for a new indoor permanent rock climbing wall at Summit, and several campus beautification projects.



Celebrate Summit Virtual Holiday Concert with Luke Spehar

Friday, December 4, 7-8 p.m.
Summit's Facebook and YouTube



summit schools
brilliant beginnings, bright futures

summitschools.org

Untying the Knot

The Importance of Cultural Inclusion
in the Classroom

Discussing the intentional fluidity of a diverse curriculum
with a panel of nationally acclaimed authors.



Sandra Cisneros



Randy Ribay



statement of inclusion

Summit created a Statement of Inclusion that helps guide the school and our community as we evaluate curriculum, activities and teaching.

Summit Schools empowers students who represent diverse learning styles, cultures, socio-economic backgrounds and personal identities. There is no such thing as a "traditional Summit student," but there is such a thing as a "Summit tradition," where each student is valued and celebrated as a unique individual and where academic, social and emotional growth flourish in a nurturing environment.

Summit is dedicated to presenting a diverse curriculum that is intentionally inclusive. Summit uses its autonomy as an independent school to explore history and our world from multiple perspectives and lenses. At Summit we believe that we learn best when we consider experiences and explore opinions different from our own. We cultivate empathetic and independent thinkers who are aware they are part of a community and citizens of the world. We offer safe spaces to listen, share, question, and participate.



SUMMIT SERIES: Moving Toward OUR History

THE IMPORTANCE OF
AN INCLUSIVE CURRICULUM

- A VIRTUAL PANEL DISCUSSION FEATURING:
- LANISHA CASSELL
(AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM OF IOWA)
 - SEAN DONALDSON
(AFRICAN AMERICAN MUSEUM OF IOWA)
 - DR. ASHLEY HOWARD (UNIVERSITY OF IOWA)
 - CALEB "THE NEGRO ARTIST" RAINEY



AFRICAN
AMERICAN
MUSEUM
OF IOWA

March 3 at 6:30 p.m.
Summit's Facebook Live/YouTube
summitschools.org





gifts for bright futures

Summit is honored to have loyal and generous alumni, parents, and friends who give through their time and resources in a variety of ways. Thank you for your generosity.

Tuition alone does not provide the revenue needed to offer the excellent Summit education that is our school's tradition. Annual giving is the single most important source of non-tuition income for our school. Summit appreciates a gift of any size because strong voluntary support from parents demonstrates the confidence from those closest to the school. Foundations and corporations carefully consider this type of support when awarding grants.

change a life (\$7,300+)

James Daubenmier Charity Fund
Ryan & Amanda Hollenbeck
Clayton & Becky Lindwall

build a mind (\$5,000-\$7,299)

Brian & Nicole Erickson
Bill & Melissa Zenk

invest in our assets (\$2,500-\$4,999)

Haroon & Paly Afridi
Anonymous
Virginia Michalicek
Randhir & Nancy Saini
Jamey Stroschine & Lisa Wiebenga
Stroschine
Jim & Julia Wittnebel

shape the future (\$1,000-\$2,499)

Gerald & Maureen Barker
Todd & Melissa Barker
Joel & Beth Bartlett
Robert Becker & Diane Handler
JP & Larisa Bickel
Phillip Burgart & Jana Linderman
Daniel & Sharon Clark
Benoit & Lynn Davy
Matthew & Virginia Deutmeyer
Chris & Kiley Graw
Greg & Lisa Hill
Beau & Dana Huberg
Jared & Heather Morris
Alex & Jane Passos
Mitch & Sarah Riley
Geoffrey & Sandra Shapira
Michael & Jennie Telisak
Craig & Emily Tobin
Jordan & Rachel Witmer
Lynn & Teresa Worley
Jackie Zug

believe (\$500-\$999)

Mark Andersland & Mary Susan Pruzinsky
Erik & Ashley Balster
Thomas & Elise Crow
Matthew & Theresa Fettkether
Grant Munson & Emily Flowergarden
Tyler & Calla Kleene
Edward & Chris Luebe
Roger & Sue Menken
Damon & Sonia Reigles
Dennis & Diane Thier

Bret & Sara Walker
Michael & Christina Wright

learn (up to \$499)

Pat Akers
Clint Aldeman & Morgan Hames
Aldeman
Jessica Altfillisch
Jennifer Ambrose
Lorraine Anderson
Danielle Ayers
Adam & Kathryn Balster
Jamika Balster
Thomas & Margaret Balster
Josh Baynes
Cheryl Barglof
Dan Baty
Janie Bengard
Juju Bengard
Mike Bengard
Manley Bigalk
Matthew Blair
Mark & Belinda Bloom
Julie Brandwein
Rocky & Mary Brown
Dan Bryant & Barbara Hames
Jonathan Burke
Barbara Burroughs
Buck & Rikka Burroughs
Parker Burroughs
Chris & Jane Carlson
Elliott Chihak
Kiley Chihak
John & Judy Chihak
Michael & Janelle Clymer
Sara Cookson
Ken & Mary Ellen Crow
Molli Cunningham
Jennifer Davis
Camron Devor
Lindsay Duggan
Arthur & May Dupont
Robert & Ann Eckles
Tori Elgin
Susan Engbers
Amelia Erickson
Daniel & Judi Erickson
Kristin Eschweiler
Marilyn Everett
Richard & Nancy Farmer
Kayla Felderman
Kevin Felderman
Nicole Felderman
Megan Hart Fernandez
James Fettkether
Jennifer Feuerbach
Kent & Sarah Fidler
Richard Fidler

Jane Frank
Jonny Gengler
Cheryl Gershey
Kylie Goldberg Goodsen
Michelle Grasso
Sandi Hames
Julie Hanlin
Georges Hanna & Miryam Al-Jawad
Douglas Hanneman
Andrea Happel
Bob Hebl
Dustin Heggebo & Tricia Risden
William & Diana Heinemann
Joseph Hennager
J Edward Hood
Tamara Hoover
Scot & Marcia Hughes
Darlys Hulme
Lila Igram
Shadia Igram
Sabeen Javed
Jase Jensen
Truman & Catharine Johnson
Chris & Tracy Johnson
Mindy Jones
Ekta Julka
Shannon Kelly
Gina Klemm
Barbara Knapp
Sofia Kodanashvili
Elmo Konzen
Thomas & Sherrie Kopecky
Jodi Krueger
Andrea Lackman
Jaymie & Aaron Lamaak
Erin Langdon
Steve & Laurene Lanich
Diana Ledford
Jo Anne & Richard Ledford
Thomas Lehn
Christine Lenhardt
Melanie Lesh
Patricia Lesky
Ellen Linderman
Sherri Linderman
Grant & Ashley Luebe
Ricelle Marek
Margo Martin
Michelle McCullough
Dennis & Linda McDermott
Mary McEniry
Myron McGowan
Tim & Jenny McGrane
Meg Merckens
Debra Merritt
Rebekah Metzдорff
Anthony & Marie Mielke
Joanie Mills
Michele Minard

parent testimonial

When our daughter walked into school one day she told her favorite temperature taker/greeter, Ms. Larisa, that she wanted to be an astronaut. It turns out that another Summit student in 5th grade has the same aspirations. By the end of the day I got a phone call letting me know that they had been introduced and a special connection had been made. THAT is what we pay for. Our child is loved, known, and invested in each day. Love this school and everyone who works there.

– PreKindergarten parent,
Ashley Luebe



Joe & Liz Vasquez
John Venteicher
Dan Vize
Aaron & Erikka Vosmek
Brenda Wagg
Thomas Wagg
Julee Wagner
Cora Walker
Hadley Walker
Al & Shirley Wiebenga
Dion Williams
Jen Wittman
Susan Wolverton
Nathaniel & Kristen Wyckoff
Barbara Young
Justin & Tamara Young
Randy Zbane

grants

Allegra FootPRINT Fund
Frontier Co-Op Giving Fund

corporate donations

build a mind
(\$5,000-\$7299)
Raytheon Technology Matching Gifts

invest in our assets
(\$2,500-\$4,999)
Balster Pediatric Dentistry

shape the future
(\$1,000-\$2,499)
Hy-Vee
JPM Enterprises

believe (\$500-\$999)
Acumen Advisors
CR Signs
D & N Fence Co, Inc.
GreatAmerica Financial Services
Hills Bank
SOKO Outfitters

learn (up to \$499)
AmazonSmile
Box Tops For Education
Casey's General Stores
Timber Marion, LLC d.b.a. Goldfinch
JPM Construction
Zio Johnno's Spaghetti House

in kind donations

Haroon & Paly Afridi
Erik & Ashley Balster family
Robert Becker & Diane Handler
JP & Larisa Bickel
Rocky & Mary Brown
Buck & Rikka Burroughs
Dan & Sharon Clark
Don Coleman
Collins Community Credit Union
CR Signs
Culver's Garden Center
D-Bat
Benoit & Lynn Davy
Jamie Day
Edible Arrangements
Rachel Eilers
Great Harvest Bread Company
Hansen's Dairy
JPM Enterprises, Inc.
Tyler & Calla Kleene
Clayton & Becky Lindwall
Brian & Chris Maloney family
Roger & Sue Menken family
Virginia Michalicek
Brad & Angie Neuville family
Alex & Jane Passos family

Pirc-Tobin Construction, Inc.
Tom & Kathleen Reinwart
Mitch & Sarah Riley family
Peter & Kristine Sahayda
Amber Smith with Injoy Productions
Jamey Stroschine & Lisa Wiebenga Stroschine
The Sanctuary Spa
Craig & Emily Tobin
Verve Studio
Jim Wittnebel
Bill & Melissa Zenk

thank
you!



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summitschools.org



education,
reimagined