

**From:** [Trent, Crystal](#)  
**To:** [BankMergerApplication](#)  
**Subject:** Suntrust Merger  
**Date:** Tuesday, April 16, 2019 5:12:54 PM

---

Good afternoon,

It is with pleasure I write on behalf of Suntrust Bank and the support of time, talent and treasure they provide to Northstar Academy, a non-profit private school for students with disabilities in grades K-12 and technical school. At Northstar, we don't classify successes by "big" or "small". We just celebrate success. The same is true for the support provided by Suntrust. While some may choose to classify the financial support provided by the Foundation or the support of our annual Gala as more important because that support involves money, I would argue the community outreach support that's been provided is equally important to our mission. Suntrust provides Financial Literacy classes to our students at our Career Academy. Further, they work with our teachers to adapt the curriculum so it's appropriate for the abilities of the students they are working with at the time. Consequently, this means they may adapt the curriculum again in subsequent years because the needs of the students can change yearly.

Additionally, Suntrust works closely with our Art teacher to celebrate the incredible work our students create. For Disability Awareness month, Donna Heath organizes an Art Show & Reception at their Downtown office. During this show, student creations along with other differently-abled individuals from the community are given the spotlight for an evening where they get to show off their work to family and friends. But knowing their work is on display for the entire month, gives our students a boost of confidence that cannot be created in the classroom. Suntrust also allows student art work to be displayed at other times of the year celebrating our students other than a designated month.

Finally, Phillip Avant has been a huge supporter of Northstar Academy as well as a member of our Board of Directors. His expertise and passion for our mission has helped further many initiatives in our school. It's clear he genuinely wants to help Northstar; not just check a box. This ultimately leads to better services for students with disabilities.

It is without hesitation I offer this support of Suntrust!

--

Thank you,  
Crystal Trent  
*Head of School*  
[ctrent@northstaracademy.net](mailto:ctrent@northstaracademy.net)  
(804) 747-1003 phone