



Summit News

February 6, 2009

Boulder Valley's First Charter School

Volume 27, Number 2

The School Calendar	
February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 11th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Monday, 16th, Presidents' Day, NO SCHOOL • Wednesday, 18th, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.*, L - Z • Thursday, 19th, Parent-Teacher Conferences, 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.*, A - K • Monday, 23rd, ½ Day*, Professional Development 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.*, A - K • Wednesday, 25th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 4th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Wednesday, 11th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Thursday, 12th, Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Thursday, 12th, Annual Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 13th, 3rd Quarter ends • Monday, 23rd, Spring Break begins • Monday, 30th, School resumes.
April	May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 1st, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Wednesday, 8th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Wednesday, 22nd, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 24th, Summit Day, NO SCHOOL 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 13th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 15th, 1/2 Day*, Professional Development • Monday, 25th, NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day • Wednesday, 27th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 29th, Last Day of school, 8th grade graduation.
<p>* Conference and ½ Day Development Meetings Note: Summit students will be in class 8:00 – 12:15 p.m.</p>	



Your Child's Education:
PRICELESS

As you heard from David Finell in an e-mail yesterday, we need your support for

Tools for Learning:

“We know these are difficult economic times for all of us, but it is increasingly important to support this fine school, especially in these difficult times. It’s true that Summit is a state funded public school. However, those funds are NOT enough to enable us to bring your children the quality programs that make Summit unique. Our ability to continually reach higher is partly due to our committed parents who help us to bridge the financial gap to make Summit one of the best middle schools in the country and the best middle school in the state of Colorado.”

Our Participation Rates thus far are:

- 6th Grade – 46%
- 7th Grade – 44%
- 8th Grade – 41%

Please consider making a donation. Any amount is significant and appreciated as we strive toward 100% participation. If you have already given, thank you. Every dollar will be well spent.

If you are considering it, please check your mailbox today for a new pledge card. If you have any questions, feel free to contact Aline Christianian at 303-494-5571.

FYI

Counseling Groups at Summit

Summit will be offering two peer support groups for students during the spring semester. The “Friendship” peer support group will discuss issues related to maintaining good relationships with peers, and making and keeping friends. This group will provide an opportunity for participants to develop self-awareness and improve social skills. In addition, students will focus on identifying personal strengths, as well as ways to establish and enjoy new friendships.

The “Student Success Skills” group will follow a research-based curriculum that combines counseling and study skills training to help students strengthen the skills and develop the attitudes needed to be successful academically. Students will work on goal setting, test preparation, memory skills, and progress monitoring, as well as relaxation and problem-solving techniques.

Summit’s counselor, Kendra Bartley, will lead both groups. Groups will meet once a week for 7 consecutive weeks. Sessions will be held during a different period each week, to minimize class time lost. The groups will begin as soon as there are enough students signed up to allow for a meaningful group experience.

Please call Mrs. Bartley at Summit if you would like your student to participate in one of these groups.

BOARD MEMBER OPENINGS

In March, the Summit community will elect four new board members to serve 2-year terms beginning in June of 2009. We hope that you will consider serving Summit in this important capacity.

Our board members bring a variety of skills and experiences to governing Summit and we welcome all backgrounds. We encourage any of you who are interested to learn more about the board through talking with current members or attending an upcoming board meeting.

Election process – At the beginning of March, we will mail home to each Summit family a ballot listing the candidates for the board and providing their responses to questions about their interest in serving on Summit’s board. In March, we will also hold a candidate forum where faculty and staff can meet the candidates as well as hosting all candidates at the Annual Meeting on March 12th.

Please contact Dave Kopel at d.kopel@summitmiddleschool.org or Becky Morley at

becky.morley@summitmiddleschool.org with any questions, to get more information about serving on the board, to obtain the board candidate questions, and to let us know you might be interested.

CSAP Corner

The CSAPs are coming! The CSAPs are coming! Mark the dates. CSAP testing will be on March 3-5 and March 10 and 11, plus 8th graders will also test on March 12.

Last year, Summit was ranked as the number one school in the State of Colorado for CSAP performance, and good attendance was an important factor. Please avoid any doctor’s or other appointments during this time. As an added incentive, we are once again offering the chance to win BIG at our raffle at lunch on March 13th. Students will have the chance to win a \$100, \$50 or \$25 gift certificate, just for being here on the scheduled testing dates. Students with perfect attendance will have 3 chances to win. Students who have missed one day will have one chance to win.

Also make sure that your child is getting plenty of rest and eating a good breakfast on the morning of any testing date.

ANNUAL MEETING

Please come to the school’s annual meeting on Thursday, March 12th at 6:30 in the Summit library. This is an important chance for you to learn more about the state of the school and plans for the coming year. It is also your chance to meet the candidates for open board seats. We hope to see many of you!

Parent Teacher Conferences

The schedule for the upcoming conferences can be found at the end of this newsletter. Teachers’ hours and locations are included.

Acceptable Use of iPods and Cell-phones:

A Reminder and Clarification

During study hall we allow students to use iPods (and other similar electronic devices) so long as they are not a disturbance to others and headphones are not shared. We allow this to help students focus on their work; but not so that they become a distraction. It is not acceptable for students to use iPods or phones or any other electronic device during study hall to play games, text, or for any other purpose besides listening to music.

As the technology for these devices continues to advance, it is becoming more and more difficult for teachers to determine if students are listening to music

or playing a game or watching a video, and it seems that more and more students are taking advantage of that fact. Please remind your child(ren) that being able to listen to an iPod during study hall is a privilege, not a right. If they continue to abuse this privilege, it may be taken away from the entire student body for the remainder of the year.

Also, students are often seen listening to music during passing periods. This is also not acceptable. Students are only allowed to use iPods before school, after school, during lunch and during study hall while in the study hall room. They may use cell phones before school, after school and during lunch.

Regional History Day is coming up!

Qualifiers should turn in all paperwork (including the registration fee) by Friday, Feb. 13 to Mrs. Wood or Mrs. Thompson. Please do not send in these forms to the regional office. All qualifiers may invite parents and friends to attend their judging session.

Reminder:

What: Regional History Day

When: Saturday, March 7, 2009

7:30am—5pm

**Interviews will be scheduled in the morning.

Documentaries and Performances which advance to Round II will need to be present for the afternoon round.

Where: Front Range Community College in Longmont.
Building C, Entrance 4
2121 Miller Drive
Longmont, CO 80501

What to Bring: 4 copies of Process Paper Packet Project!! (Historical Papers will be turned in with registration form)

Lunch/snacks

Homework or music for downtime.

Math Counts

Once again Summit made the AMC-8 (American Mathematics Contest) Honor Roll (most of our students took the test for the contest). We were one of only 2 Colorado middle schools to achieve Honor Roll status. Mathcounts chapter competition will be on February 7. Yea Summit!!

Summit Spelling Bee 2009 Results

Summit's English Department held its school-level spelling competition as part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee during December and January. For the second year in a row, Jonah Kim won the Summit spelling bee and will be representing Summit at the regional competition later this month.

In addition to Jonah, the finalists participating in the final round, an oral bee, were: sixth-grader Chloe Pradeau and seventh-grader Robin Reifsnnyder

(English II), and eighth graders Lee Jones (English III), and Sarah Walters (English IV).

Honorable mention also goes to the first round (classroom) winners this year: Annie Janda, Colton Stevens, Andy Rufat-Latre, Trace Hybertson, Sam Alipour-Fard, John Maruyama, Sonya Walker, Laura Hutchinson, Caitlyn Lee, and Emily Bloechle for English I; Jackson McLellan, Lauren Winchester, Jonathan Tari for English II; Nick Morris, Ryan Hartzell, Lauren Kempton, Shannon Rosenblum, Josh Young, Tonya Ingerson, Samantha Chin, and Natalie Hall for English III.

Congratulations to all participants. This year's bee was exciting and challenging, with excellent sportsmanship as well as impressive spelling. Thanks also to the English teachers and the many spectators who came to support the spellers. Let's all wish Jonah good luck at the regional bee on February 21 at Monarch High.

Rotary Club's Share-A-Coat Drive

Thank you for making this year's Share-A-Coat drive a success. With your help, the Rotary Club collected over 3,000 coats and many other winter garments such as sweaters, snowsuits, hats, gloves, scarves and boots from Boulder County schools and local businesses. On Saturday - December 20, many of these garments were given to the less fortunate people of Boulder County as part of the Holiday Giving Program. Other garments were given to various charitable organizations for distribution throughout the winter. Storybooks were also collected and distributed by Share-A-Gift as part of the Holiday Giving Program.

Speed Strength and Conditioning Class

For: Middle School and High School Students

Where: Flatirons Athletic Club

When: Mondays and Wednesdays 4:30 – 5:30 p.m.

Fee: \$15.00 per session, drop-in basis.

Sessions are led by Trevor Harris, Summit Middle School Physical Education and Health Teacher, Coach and Personal Trainer, ISSA Certified. For questions or details call, 303-494-0406. There is no need to be a Flatirons Athletic Club member.

Student Council News

February is a busy month for student council. Our upcoming events include:

Valengrams

Student council is selling Valengrams during lunch. Students can send a note to a friend for just 50 cents; add a chocolate heart for an additional 50 cents; or add a flower for \$1.50. Valengrams will be delivered to during 7th period next Friday.

UnValentines Dance - Our UnValentines Dance will be on Friday the 13th of February after school until 5:00

pm. Cost of entry is \$4 and includes a slice of pizza. Students should also bring extra money (approximately \$5) to participate in other activities like cookie decorating, bubble wrap popping and more. Songs can be requested in advance of the dance by going to www.ovationentertainment.com.

Random Acts of Kindness Week

Student Council will be decorating the halls after school on Friday, the 6th, as a surprise for next week. Stop by and see our handiwork.

Community Connections

Parent Book Club

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday, February 24 from 6:30 – 8:00 pm in the Summit library. We'll be discussing *The Roller Coaster Years: Raising Your Child Through the Maddening Yet Magical Middle School Years* by Charlene C. Giannetti and Margaret Sagarese. Feel free to join us whether or not you've completed reading the book; the more people we have the livelier the discussion will be! If you have any questions, please contact Kim Haines at hainesk@indra.com or 303-546-0900.

Summit Moms Walks/Hikes - Want the scoop on Summit moms' hikes? Email Michele at michelefishman@hotmail.com to put yourself on the list, even if you can only participate once. She will schedule various days/times while kids are in school.

Monthly Staff Breakfasts

Each month the Community Connections Committee hosts breakfast for our staff and faculty. Thanks to our December hosts Aline Christianian, Peggy Kaufman and Liz Reed. Our January hosts were Amy Beringer and Chris Velds. If you are interested in helping with these breakfasts, let us know at summit.connections@bvsd.org.

New Families Committee

Help us welcome our new Summit students and their families by joining the New Families Committee! This Committee handles mentoring, summer events, the Back to School Social and more. Contact summit.connections@bvsd.org

High School Course Placement Day for Summit 8th Graders

Summit will have a high school course placement recommendation day on Friday, **February 20**. On this day, Summit core subject teachers will meet individually with their 8th grade students during each class period to provide course placement recommendations. Mrs. Bartley sent high school course placement recommendation guidelines via e-mail to all 8th grade parents this week. Students and parents should review these to understand the course placement recommendations their student may receive. To obtain registration and course selection materials, students need to attend the evening program offered by the high school they plan to attend. A list of these programs is provided below.

On Wednesday, Feb. 25, students will select their high school courses online at Summit during their World Geography classes. High school counselors will be visiting Summit to assist students in completing the on-line course selection process. On February 4, Summit 8th graders attended an assembly during fifth period to learn about high school registration and course requirements in all BVSD high schools. BVSD high school counselor Wendy Herron presented the assembly. If you have any questions regarding high school registration, please feel free to call Kendra Bartley, Summit's guidance counselor, at 303-499-9511.

Transition Nights: Selecting Courses for Ninth Grade

Boulder High School: Feb. 18 in the Auditorium. Last names N-Z 6:00-7:15. Last names A-M 7:15-8:30.

Broomfield High School: Feb. 18. Meet coaches at 6:00pm. Tour of building at 6:30pm. Presentation at 7:00pm.

Centaurus High School: Feb. 9 at 6:30pm.

Fairview High School: Feb. 18. Last name A-K from 6:00pm to 9:00pm. Last name L-Z from 6:45pm to 9:30pm.

Monarch High School: Feb. 18 from 6:00pm to 8:00pm.

New Vista High School: Course selection will be done individually.

Peak to Peak High School: March 11 at 4:00pm. Call the school or visit website for more details.

SAVE THE DATE

1st Annual Party to Celebrate our Summit Community!

Sunday, March 15th

5:30 - 8:00 p.m.

The New Foundry

1109 Walnut Street in Boulder

\$20 per Person (Includes heavy hors d'oeuvres and one glass of beer, wine or soda)

- Cash Bar

- Featuring a Silent Auction and Raffle

- This event is for Summit Parents (Current, Former and New), Staff and Faculty. (No students please.)

- Meet new people, chat with old friends & Celebrate Summit!

For more information, please contact summit.connections@bvsd.org

Note: We will be having a silent auction and raffle to benefit Summit. If you have a product or service you would like to donate, please contact summit.connections@bvsd.org

IT'S EASY TO SIGN UP..

JUST COMPLETE THE FOLLOWING FORM AND PLACE IT IN THE DROP BOX IN SUMMIT'S OFFICE LABELED: **Summit Celebration!**

Name (s) of Attendee (s) :

Telephone: _____

Email: _____

Please make reservations for _____ @ at \$20 each. Total \$ _____

Method of Payment (Check One)

___ Cash

___ Check made payable to Summit Middle School (Check # _____)

___ Credit Card Number (Name on card: _____)

Number: _____ Expiration Date: _____)

Thank you! We will follow up with you by email to confirm your reservation.

_____ Yes, I'd love to help with the event! Contact me at the above email.

Conference Schedule and Locations

Parent / Teacher Conferences
February 18 and 19

For Families Whose
Children's Last Names
Begin L - Z

For Families Whose
Children's Last Names
Begin A - K

<u>TEACHERS</u>	<u>MPR*</u>	<u>Library</u>	<u>Rm 14</u>	<u>Music Rm</u>	<u>Hours Available - Feb. 18</u>	<u>Hours Available - Feb. 19</u>
Ms. Ayi-Bonte (Phelps) (FT)	X				1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00
Ms. de Nobrega (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00
Ms. Frykholm (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00
Mr. Garcia (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00
Mr. Goettsche (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00
Mr. Harris (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00
Ms. Kapsak (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00
Mr. Kilgore (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:45 and 4:00 - 6:00
Mr. Rudback (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00
Ms. Saalwachter (FT)	X				1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00
Mr. Seibel (FT)	X				1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00
Mr. Teasdale (FT)	X				1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00 and 4:15 - 6:00
Ms. Avallone (PT)		X			4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30
Mr. Baldwin (PT)				X	1:30 - 3:30	3:30 - 5:30
Ms. Bartley (FT)	X				1:30 - 3:30	4:30 - 6:00
Ms. Barton (PT)		X			1:30 - 3:30	4:30 - 6:00
Ms. Baruch (PT)		X				1:30 - 6:00

Ms. Blakemore (FT)		X		1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30 and 3:45 - 6:00
Mr. Cowley (PT)		X		1:30 - 3:00	4:30 - 6:00
Ms. Davids (PT)		X		4:30 - 6:00	1:30 - 3:30
Dr. Fotino (PT)		X		4:30 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00
Ms. Kolanowski (PT)		X		1:30 - 4:00	4:00 - 6:00
Mr. Levine (PT)		X		1:30 - 3:30	1:30 - 2:30
Ms. Lamond (PT)			X	1:30 - 4:00	4:00 - 6:00
Ms. Spangler (PT)		X		1:30 - 4:00	3:30 - 5:00
Dr. Tarasewicz (PT)			X	2:30 - 4:30	4:30 - 6:00
Ms. Thompson (PT)		X		4:00 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00
Ms. Tyse (PT)		X		1:30 - 3:30	4:00 - 6:00
Ms. Van Loon (PT)			X	1:30 - 3:00	4:30 - 6:00
Ms. Wood (PT)		X		4:15 - 6:00	1:30 - 4:00
*MPR = Multi-purpose room					

Summit News

Summit News is the official newsletter of Summit Middle School, 4655 Hanover Ave.,
Boulder, CO 80305.

Mr. David Finell, Principal. Ms. Amanda Avallone, Assistant Principal.
Ms. Valerie Koch, Dean of Student Life.

Telephone: 303-499-9511. Attendance: 303-499-9511, ext. 500. Fax: 303-499-0215

To contact us via email: summit.office@bvsd.org

Summit News is e-mailed to the parents of enrolled students. Others are added to this list upon request.

Summit News is available at www.bvsd.org/schools/summit

Janet Schultz, Editor, cojayhawks@aol.com

Some activities and events announced in Summit News are not sponsored or endorsed by Summit Middle School or the Boulder Valley School District.

MISSION OF SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

- To provide a rigorous, academic curriculum that promotes high levels of student effort and academic achievement
- To foster high self-esteem through stimulating intellectual challenge and meaningful academic accomplishment
- To inspire in students a lifelong love of learning and a desire for self-development
- To create a community of peers who value scholarship, academic achievement, and creativity
- To serve as an excellent preparation for students intending to study in the International Baccalaureate program and other college-preparatory high school programs

ENROLLMENT IN SUMMIT

Summit Middle School is a tuition-free, public charter school in the Boulder Valley School District, serving grades 6, 7 and 8 through mixed-age classes grouped by ability, interest, motivation, developmental level, and mastery of previous material - taught by teachers who are specialists in their subject areas. Prospective students register through the District's open-enrollment process at the beginning of the calendar year. Please go to BVSD's Open Enrollment link for more information: <http://bvsd.org/openenrollment/Pages/default.aspx>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS: 2008-2009 ACADEMIC YEAR

Becky Morley, President, Becky.Morley@summitmiddleschool.org

David Kopel, Vice Pres., d.kopel@summitmiddleschool.org

Debra Ritzwoller, Secretary, debra.ritzwoller@summitmiddleschool.org

Amy Beringer, Treasurer, amy.beringer@summitmiddleschool.org

Maggie Yost, Maggie.yost@summitmiddleschool.org

Robin Luff, robin.luff@summitmiddleschool.org

Yizi Xu, yizi.xu@summitmiddleschool.org

Ali Gidfar, ali.gidfar@summitmiddleschool.org

Aline Christianian, aline.christianian@summitmiddleschool.org

David Finell, Principal, 303-499-9511, david.finell@bvsd.org (ex officio)