



# Summit News

February 5, 2010

Boulder Valley's First Charter School

Volume 29, Number 2

The School Calendar	
February	March
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> <li>• Monday, 15<sup>th</sup>, NO School, Presidents' Day</li> <li>• Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>, Community Connections meeting, 8:30 am.</li> <li>• Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup>, Parent Teacher Conferences* (L - Z), 1:30 – 6:00 pm</li> <li>• Wednesday, 24<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> <li>• Thursday, 25<sup>th</sup>, Parent Teacher Conferences* (A - K), 1:30 – 6:00 pm</li> <li>• Friday, 26<sup>th</sup>, Professional Development Day, ½ day for students*</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• CSAP testing, 2<sup>nd</sup> - 4<sup>th</sup>, 9<sup>th</sup> - 11<sup>th</sup></li> <li>• Wednesday, 10<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> <li>• Thursday, 11<sup>th</sup>, Annual Community Meeting, 6:30 pm.</li> <li>• Friday, 19<sup>th</sup>, 3rd Quarter ends.</li> <li>• Monday, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Spring Break begins.</li> <li>• Monday, 29<sup>th</sup>, School resumes.</li> <li>• Wednesday, 31<sup>st</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> </ul>
April	May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Saturday, 3<sup>rd</sup>, Homework-free weekend</li> <li>• Wednesday, 7<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> <li>• Sunday, 18<sup>th</sup>, Celebrate Summit, Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art</li> <li>• Wednesday, 21<sup>st</sup>, Board Meeting, 6:30 pm, Summit Library</li> <li>• Thursday, 22<sup>nd</sup>, Community Connections meeting, 8:30 am.</li> <li>• Friday, 30<sup>th</sup>, Summit Day, NO School</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Friday, 14<sup>th</sup>, ½ day Professional Day</li> <li>• Friday, 28<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grade graduation</li> <li>• Friday, 28<sup>th</sup>, last day of school</li> </ul>
<p>* Conference and ½ Day Development Meetings Note: Summit students will be in class 8:00 – 12:15 pm.</p>	

## FYI

### Save the dates--CSAP tests are one month away!

You know that CSAP tests provide important information to our school and greater community about student achievement and the strength of Summit's program. Moreover, they are required by law. What you might not know is that during some testing windows in the past, up to 100 "missed sessions" due to absences have had to be made up in the week following the scheduled sessions. Due to the short deadline set by the state, students must be removed from their scheduled classes to participate in these

make-ups for CSAP. These additional absences not only affect individual students' learning but may also disrupt the classes they leave. As a result, CSAP testing has in some years had an impact on the curriculum that lasted almost a month.

For these reasons, we ask our Summit families to do all they can to avoid unnecessary absences (dental appointments, trips, etc.) during the testing days and times. This year all CSAP tests will given between 10 a.m. and 1:30 p.m. on **March 2, 3, 4, 9, and 10.**

**Grade 8 Science will be administered at 8 a.m. on March 11.** As an extra incentive for good attendance, Summit will hold a gift card raffle the week before spring break, which will be open to students with excellent attendance during CSAP. Details to follow!

#### **Reaching your student during the school day**

Parents often ask the office to deliver messages to students during the school day, which of course we are happy to do if it is an emergency. If it is not an urgent matter, to avoid interrupting class, please try to text the message to your child directly (cell phones will not be on in class, but students can check messages at lunch or after school) or call the office during **first period** so that your child can be called down at nutrition break. If you ask your student to call you back, remind them that they need to leave you a message to avoid those mystery phone calls from Summit! If someone in the office or the Health Room calls you, we will **always** leave a message.

#### **Important Student Safety Reminder**

The Summit staff only supervises students while they are on the Summit campus. Please remind your child about safety guidelines for crossing busy streets if he/she crosses Table Mesa or Broadway while coming to school or going home. We have heard some very scary stories recently about students running across in front of cars against the light in an effort to catch a bus or catch up with a friend. Please emphasize the importance of traffic safety with your child. Thanks!

#### **Summit Spelling Bee 2010 Results**

Summit's English Department held its school-level spelling competition as part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee during January. Chloe Pradeau, a 7<sup>th</sup> grader, won the Summit spelling bee and will be representing Summit at the regional competition on February 20 at Monarch High. Chloe's winning word in the championship round was *gelid*.

In addition to Chloe, the finalists included: Calvin Lincoln, Erin Strand, Vivian Wang, Mike Beitner, and Tania Elmore.

Honorable mention also goes to the first round (classroom) winners this year: Radon Rosborough, Bryn Redal, Eric Marrinan, Michael McClurg, Elaine Mione, and William Roberts (from English I); Thu Pham, Tai Koester, Ben Morris, and Catrin Trudgill (from English II); Ilana Wurman and Jessica Piper (from 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 spectators who came to support the spellers. Let's all wish Chloe good luck at the regional bee.

#### **SUMMIT SCIENCE FAIR 2010**

Congratulations to all 8th grade students who completed science fair projects! You exhibited high scholarship! We are very proud of your accomplishments and the judges were thoroughly impressed by your effort and achievements!

We are pleased to announce that the following 21 projects were selected to represent Summit at the Roche Colorado Regional Science Fair. This year's theme is "Science Connects." The fair will include junior and senior division projects from all across Boulder Valley School District. The fair will be held at CU-Boulder in the UMC on February 23. The public viewing is from 4-5:30 PM. I encourage members of the Summit community to attend in support of our students. You are likely to see Summit alumni competing in the Senior Division as well!

These 21 Summit projects are on display at Summit in the Ravenclaw Tech Lab (Old Library across from the main office) until 3 PM on Thursday Feb 11. Please come take a look!

A full summary of volunteers, semifinalists, finalists, and recognition beyond Summit will be published in the spring after all related competitions have concluded. We could not do this without the support of the Summit community- thank you!

Johanne Albrigtsen- Plant Science  
Michael Dessau- Engineering  
Olivia Feeney- Animal Science  
Katie Fitzpatrick- Plant Science  
Joel Frykholm- Engineering  
Logan Garbarini- Chemistry  
Ryan Hartzell- Medicine and Health  
Larissa Hunt- Medicine and Health  
Brandon Jacobs- Computer Science  
Jack McClellan- Medicine and Health  
Torin McDonald- Environmental Science  
Caroline McKee- Energy and Transportation  
Tyler Morley- Physics  
Jacqueline Reed- Microbiology  
David Ritzwoller- Earth Science  
Dylan Schlager- Physics  
Maddy Searchinger- Chemistry  
Emma Shetter- Behavioral and Social Science  
Gabrielle Vermeire- Plant Science  
Emma Vigers- Microbiology  
Lawrence Zhang and Isabelle Nathanson (team)- Behavioral and Social Science

#### **CONGRATULATIONS!**

Haydee Ayi-Bonte, Science Fair Coordinator  
Christy Lapp, Parent Coordinator  
Peter Teasdale, Adult Sponsor

## Community Connections

Save the Date!

### **2010 Celebrate Summit**

Sunday, April 18<sup>th</sup>

4:00 – 6:30 p.m.

Boulder Museum of Contemporary Art (BMoCA)

- Please note: This event is for former, current and incoming parents, as well as Summit staff and faculty. It is not a student event.

### **Do You Know Summit's School Song? Well here it is...**

SUMMIT CHARTER MIDDLE SCHOOL  
TAKING PRIDE IN ALL WE DO.  
EDUCATION AT ITS BEST,  
RECOGNIZED FROM EAST TO WEST.  
ACADEMICS, SPORTS AND ARTS.  
CLUBS IN WHICH WE ALL TAKE PART.  
SILVER, BLACK AND PURPLE TOO  
GO HUSKIES! WE'RE FOR YOU.

### **Welcome Events for New Families**

We are looking for parents to help with our mentoring and summer social events for new Summit families. If you are interested in helping, please contact Maggie Yost at [maggie.yost@mac.com](mailto:maggie.yost@mac.com) or [polly.dawkins@googlemail.com](mailto:polly.dawkins@googlemail.com)  
Thanks!

### **Staff Appreciation Week**

Staff Appreciation Week is the week of April 12<sup>th</sup>. Nancy Davis is spearheading the organization of this week. If you are interested in helping, please contact Nancy at: [njcgl@me.com](mailto:njcgl@me.com).

### **Parent Book Club**

Current book is Broken: A Love Story by Lisa Jones. Time and date of discussion to be announced! If there are any questions, please contact Paula Sukiennicki at [psukiennicki@hotmail.com](mailto:psukiennicki@hotmail.com).

### **Connections Thank you...**

Thank you to the following volunteers for providing the wonderful French-themed Breakfast for our faculty and staff: Debbie Gould, Peggy Kaufman, Elizabeth Stiles, Maggie Yost, Jeannine Harrington, Christine Veld, Larysa Beyer and Pam Andringa.

And thank you to the following parents who chaperoned the Night at the Rec Center:

Dita Hutchinson

Yoshie Koester

Sherry Franz

Liz Reed

Trina Peterson

Chris Lietz

Marlys Lietz

Kristen Royer

Trish James

Elizabeth Stiles

Jackie Marrinan

Scott Anderson

Tom Harrington

Dennis Kitayama

Ann Kitayama

Michelle Hastings

### ***Want to really know your child's school?* Consider joining the Summit Board of Directors.**

Dear fellow parents,

We are looking for a few parents to join Summit's Board of Directors.

Board terms are two years, beginning June 1<sup>st</sup> 2010.

The Summit Board is directly involved with the governance of the school, and supports Mr. Finell and his staff in their efforts to deliver one of the best middle school education programs in the State.

You do not need board experience to be an effective member. Our board members bring a variety of skills to

the governing of the school. There are no minimum qualifications; we welcome all who are interested.

Please contact me, or any of my fellow board members with questions. Our contact information is available at: <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/summit/board/Pages/Members.aspx>

You are always welcome to join us at an upcoming board meeting – the next one will be February 10<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.

Many thanks,  
Ali Gidfar, fellow parent, and board member  
303-669-3370  
[Agidfar.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:Agidfar.at.summit@gmail.com)



## ***Tools for Learning Update...***

We wish to thank the following contributors to **Tools for Learning** since our last newsletter:

Benjamin and Lisa Brussell  
Madhavi and Ram Chintalapally  
Siwan Kim  
Shuang Lin-Gonzales  
Cynthia and Mark McCreery

Michelle Meyer  
Spence Morley  
Kirk Johnson and Heather Walters  
Michael and Page Zekonis

**Thank you** to all the families that have contributed to our annual campaign thus far. With your help, we have raised \$62,000 already - this will partially offset a shortfall of at least \$150,000 or 8% of Summit's annual operating budget, due to state cuts in K-12 funding this year. For those families that have not yet had the opportunity to participate, we **really** need your support right now to minimize the impact of this funding shortfall on your students at Summit. Please, give what you can today by dropping off a check at the Summit office or sending it to:

Tools for Learning  
Supporters of Summit, Inc.  
4655 Hanover Ave.  
Boulder, CO 80305

Thank you!  
Summit Board of Directors

## **Capital Campaign Donors**

Thank you for your generous donations to the Capital Campaign. The gym is open so come and check it out if you haven't had a chance to see it already!

Michael & Donna Walters  
Martin & Elena Black  
Clay & Trish James  
Amy Howard & Scott Hunsaker  
Sara & Dug Steen  
Betsy Phelan & Paul Smith  
Dawn & Tom Mahowald  
Lynn Heilig & Jeff Kee  
Susanna Foels & Duncan Scribner  
Kim & Jon Haines  
Laura & Peter Burke  
Barb & Chris Kostanick

Debbie & Tom Gould  
Ila Slimowitz & Michael Kracauer  
Jon & Caroline McClurg  
Kevin Pykkonen & Monica Haenselman  
F. Joseph Glynn & Kerry O'Keefe Glynn  
Melody Denham & John Combs  
Dee Marie  
Elaine Corey & Paul Balaguer  
Page & Michael Zekonis  
W.W. Norton & Company, Inc.  
Felix & Laura Magowan

We apologize if any names were missed. Please let us know and we will correct that omission before the next list. Also, if you would prefer to have your name listed differently, please let me know.

Julie Scott  
[juliana.scott@bvsd.org](mailto:juliana.scott@bvsd.org)  
Capital Campaign

**6<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Roll First Semester 2009-2010**

Julia Benz	Grace Garza	Joshua Mihelic
Heather Betz	Connor Guerin	Elena Mione
Ellyson Beyer	Brendan Haines	Benjamin Morris
Camille Britton	Henry Harrington	Daria Petropavlovskikh
Peter Buchholz	John Harrington	Bryn Redal
Samuel Chaim-Weisman	Patricia Hyde	Fletcher Reifsnnyder
Jackson Chen	Kaitlin James	Carolyn Roberts
Christopher Choi	William Kaufman	William Roberts
Julia Combs	Dylan Kempton	Sean Rosborough
Emma Cooney	Dirk Komarnitsky	Wynne Royer
Anthony Cowell	Nina Kranzdorf	Sydney Russ
Madison Crowley	Catherine Kuhn	Elliot Scribner
Rohini Dasan	Tatjana Kunz	Christine Soh
Jessica Dessau	Jonghae Lee	Miriam Stein
Carrie Douglass	Katrina Lems	Eric Sun
Eileen Drolet	Clara Lietz	Lina Takahashi
Gali Elkon Lev	Yunyu Lin	Avery Tallman
Whitaker Fanestil	Calvin Lincoln	Thomas Toslosky
Blythe Feeney	Helen Magowan	Emilia Van Buskirk
Eli Fournier	Stevan Maksimovic	Alexander Walker
Isaac Fournier	Audrey McClurg	Kirsten Walters
Eleanor Fox	Michael McClurg	Lucy Walters
Brooke Garbarini	Liam McDonald	

**7<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Roll First Semester 2009-2010**

Samuel Alipour-Fard	Lindsey Hoskins	Rachel Perley
Michelle Anderson	Annie Huang	Tessa Peterson
Sidney Andrew	Jack Hunsaker	Thu Pham
Kaetlyn Arant	Rowan Hussein	Jessica Piper
Cassandra Baca	Laura Hutchinson	Stefan Popescu
Anna Balaguer	Katherine Johns	Chloe Pradeau
Emily Bloechle	Solina Kennedy	Isabel Reeves
Benjamin Bright	Cormac Killeen	Sydney Richardson
Jena Brooks	Tai Koester	Jina Signorelli
Katherine Burns	Caitlyn Lee	Samantha Staynings
Nicholas Campbell-Kruger	Gwendolyn Leifer	Colton Stevens
Ignatius Castelino	Clifford Lester	Erin Strand
Quinn Conroy	Grant Lurie	Cassandra Sukiennicki
Neeve Donohue	Xenia Mathys	Catrin Trudgill
Rachel Dreher	Aleah Matthews-Runner	Hailey Velds
Emily Engelhardt	Pierce McCrerey	Audrey Vivas
Alexander Fontillas	Julia McCue	Amy Wang
Paris Franz	Noah Mihelic	Vivian Wang
John Glynn	Michael O'Hearne	Stephanie Wong
Emily Grubb	Joshua Park	Kaylie Young
Nicholas Gunther		

<b>8<sup>th</sup> grade Honor Roll First Semester 2009-2010</b>
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Erin Adams	Audrey Hearn	Connor Perkins
Johanne Albrigtsen	Larissa Hunt	Jacqueline Reed
Casey Andringa	Tonya Ingerson	Alan Scheuermann
Alexander Brussell	Ella Jenak	Hal Schultz
Jyoti Campbell	Sarah Kaufman	Emma Schwartz
Maxx Chance	Lauren Kempton	Maddy Searchinger
Lena Christianian	Elise Keston-Smith	Albert Soh
Michael Dessau	Blake Kitayama	Pyrenee Steiner
Olivia Feeney	James Kranzdorf	Jonathan Tari
Bailey Flanagan	Calvin Lietz	Kayla Tawa
Monika Franaszczuk	Jack McClellan	Gabrielle Vermeire
Logan Garbarini	Torin McDonald	Emma Vigers
Lily Goldner	Caroline McKee	Rose Wang
Hannah Gould	Mallory Metzler	Rayanne Weigel
Genevieve Gregorich	Erin Mooz	Lauren Winchester
Meghan Haines	Tyler Morley	Ilana Wurman
Grace Harrington	Isabelle Nathanson	Lawrence Zhang
Ryan Hartzell	Veronica Pagowski	Victoria Zheng

### **An Update from the Boulder Valley School**

#### **A Statewide Fiscal Crisis is Hitting all 178 School Districts throughout Colorado**

##### ***Large budget cuts must be made by every school and department in Boulder Valley School District***

According to state elected leaders and the media, Colorado state government is now in the second year of its worst fiscal crisis since the Great Depression. Until now, BVSD has generally been able to shield the schools from budget cuts, but the news from the Capitol has gotten worse in the last few weeks. The reductions in state funding for BVSD are now much too large to be managed without significant cuts to school budgets.

BVSD Superintendent Chris King and district budget and finance staff began meeting with all 54 BVSD principals, assistant principals, and department directors in January to talk about how to manage this budget crisis. Because BVSD cannot be certain that the cuts for 2010-2011 will not go even deeper, this group was presented preliminary plans for 1) a best case scenario (\$12 million in BVSD cuts), 2) a middle case scenario (\$18 million in BVSD cuts) or 3) a worst case scenario (\$25 million in BVSD cuts). For schools, the amounts needed to be cut to meet each of these three targets are 2.25 percent, 5.25 percent, or 8.25 percent. Each department in BVSD's central administration will make cuts of 7.5 percent, 13.50 percent or 19.75 percent; depending on how large the final funding cuts end up being from the state.

Difficult decisions will need to be made during the next couple of months. Parents are encouraged to provide input to their School Accountability Committee (formerly called the "SIT" or "School Improvement Team") about proposed cuts at their school. Each school's accountability committee will report back to the District Accountability Committee in April on the input they received from parents. In addition, the superintendent will be scheduling more superintendent/community budget meetings than ever before. The meeting schedule will be sent to all BVSD parents as soon as it is finalized. It will include daytime and evening meetings.

"These budget decisions will be reached through a process of collaboration," Superintendent Chris King reported to the Boulder Valley Board of Education during its Jan. 12 meeting. "This will not necessarily be a process of consensus, but it will very much be a process of input collection and analysis."

Cuts this deep cannot help but affect almost everyone in the district, including students, but we are committed to maintaining the excellent and equitable educational experience that BVSD is known for, no matter what.



# Does Your Child Need Health Insurance?

## What? Health Insurance Enrollment Fair and Dental Aid Free Day

Boulder County Healthy Kids will help families complete their applications to receive free or low cost Medicaid or CHP+ health insurance for children under age 19 and pregnant women. If you are interested in free dental care for your children, please call one of the Dental Aid clinics below for an appointment or more information.

**When?** Friday, February 5<sup>th</sup> from 8:30-5:00 and Saturday, February 6<sup>th</sup> from 9-1 at the Louisville clinic only

**Where?** At all three Boulder County Dental Aid clinics

### Boulder

4155 Darley Avenue, Ste C  
Boulder, CO 80305  
303-499-7072

### Longmont

1715 Princess Dr.  
Longmont, CO 80501  
303-682-2619

### Louisville

877 South Boulder Road  
Louisville, CO 80027  
303-665-8228

## If you are applying for health insurance please bring:

- Your child’s birth certificate
- Your child’s passport (if they have one)
- State ID or school ID for children 16 and older
- Your child’s social security number
- Your last paycheck stub from each job

## Questions?

Call Boulder County Healthy Kids

**303-441-1589**

Income Eligibility*	
(Family size includes parent/guardian & children)	
Family Size	Monthly Income
2	2,490
3	3,128
4	3,767
5	4,406
6	5,045
7	5,684

\*Some deductions are allowed for childcare, child support and medical costs



## 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.

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](http://www.bvsd.org/schools/summit)

Janet Schultz, Editor, [cojayhawks@aol.com](mailto: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.

### SUMMIT MISSION STATEMENT

- 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, a desire for self-development and good citizenship.
- 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 rigorous college preparatory high school programs, including International Baccalaureate and Advanced Placement.

### ENROLLMENT IN SUMMIT

Summit Middle School is a tuition-free, public charter school in the Boulder Valley School District (BVSD), serving grades 6, 7 and 8 through mixed-age classes grouped by ability, interest, motivation, developmental level, and mastery of previous material, and taught by teachers who are specialists in their subject areas.

Prospective students register through the District's open-enrollment process. Please go to BVSD's Open

Enrollment link for more information: <http://bvsd.org/openenrollment/Pages/default.aspx>

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2009-2010 ACADEMIC YEAR

**Ali Gidfar**, Chair, [agidfar.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:agidfar.at.summit@gmail.com)

**Dita Hutchinson**, Vice Chair, [dhutchinson.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:dhutchinson.at.summit@gmail.com)

**Liz Snowden**, Treasurer, [lsnowden.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:lsnowden.at.summit@gmail.com)

**Polly Dawkins**, Secretary, [pdawkins.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:pdawkins.at.summit@gmail.com)

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**David Finell**, Principal, 303-499-9511, [david.finell@bvsd.org](mailto:david.finell@bvsd.org) (ex officio)