

# Summit News



Volume 32, Issue 5

October 21, 2011

## Summit Calendar

October	
October 21	8th grade girls basketball game, 4:00 pm
October 24	Late start, 9:00 am (Collaboration Time)
October 26	8th grade girls basketball game, 4:00 pm Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Library
October 28	Student Council sponsored Halloween Dance, 3:05-5:00 pm
October 29-30	Homework 'free' and family weekend

November	
November 4	Summit International Night, 5:00 - 7:00 pm, Cafeteria
November 9	Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Library
November 14	Late start, 9:00 am (Collaboration Time) School Starts at 8:55 am
November 16	High School Transition Program for 8th grade families, 6:30-8:00 pm, Library
November 21-25	Thanksgiving Holiday - no school
November 28	Late start, 9:00 am (Collaboration Time)
November 30	Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Library

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## Announcing a New Summit Principal

Last May, we learned that David Finell would be moving on to new challenges in his life after the 2011-2012 school year. With David's input and support, Summit began a thoughtful and thorough search for his replacement. We looked both locally and nationally to find the best possible candidate to lead Summit ahead. We are now pleased to announce that Mr. Jim Eagen will be the new Principal of Summit, starting July 1, 2012.

Jim comes to us from the Manlius Pebble Hill School in DeWitt, New York, where he currently serves as the Head of the Middle School, a position he has held since 2007. Jim has focused his career on middle school, both administration and teaching. His passion for middle school students, teachers and parents is apparent to all who meet and work with him, and he is an enthusiastic supporter of the quality education embodied by the Summit mission. Jim's experience in independent schools aligns closely with Summit: a community that has made a deliberate choice to attend a school; a strongly mission-driven school supporting an academically-rigorous curriculum; emphasis on attracting and retaining outstanding teachers; and governance by a parent-led board. All told, Jim has the credentials, experience, and vision to help us consider and define what Summit should be tomorrow and into the future.

The Summit Board of Directors would like to thank all the members of our community who helped with the search process over these last several months. We would particularly like to thank the administrators, teachers and parents who volunteered their time on the Advisory and Search Committees:

Advisory Committee Members: Elizabeth Burrows, Shelly Hendrick, Sue Baruch, Elizabeth Drozda-Freeman, Alex Garcia, Cheryle Kapsak, Michelle Laub, Sandy Allen, Veronica Casebolt, Marianne Castano, Manohar Gudavalli, Kim Haines and Christy Lapp.

Search Committee Members: Tanya de Nobrega, Stephen Goettsche, Polly Dawkins, Dwayne Nesmith, Shelley Sapsin, Chitra Seshan and Liz Snowden.

Adam Galvin, Elizabeth Burrows and Shelly Hendrick, together with David Finell, the Board of Directors and members of the Summit faculty and staff, will soon begin work on the process to ensure a seamless transition in leadership. We very much look forward to welcoming Jim, his wife, Ellen, and their two children, Sarah Rose, a kindergartener, and Ben, a fifth grader, to our Summit community.

- Summit Board of Directors



## 2011-12 Summit Annual Fund

**THANK YOU** to all the families that have donated to the 2011-12 Annual Fund already!  
We're off to a great start!



The Annual Fund is Summit's largest and most important fundraiser of the year. The Annual Fund covers the gap between funding received from BVSD and the State of Colorado, and Summit's operating costs for the current school year. Fundraising support from Summit's parents and alumni is essential.

All Summit Annual Fund donations directly benefit the school and support important priorities like school equipment and student programs. Our primary goal this year is to get 100% participation in 100 days. By January, we are hopeful that every family at Summit will have pledged or contributed to the 2011-2012 Annual Fund in an amount that is right for their family.

**Please remember, no gift is too small;  
our goal is 100% participation!**

We hope to raise \$100,000 for this school year, with a suggested contribution of \$350 per student. If you haven't made a contribution, please consider making your donation today to get us closer to our 100% goal.

**DONATE ONLINE** - make a secure online contribution to *Supporters of Summit\**.

**BY CHECK** - donations made out to *Supporters of Summit* can be dropped at the school office, or mailed to:

Summit Middle School  
ATTN: Annual Fund  
4655 Hanover Ave  
Boulder, CO 80305

**STOCK and EMPLOYEE MATCHING** – please contact Barb Knapp to arrange a stock or corporate matching gift.

**Thank you for supporting Summit!**

### Questions?

If you have any questions about the Annual Fund or Corporate Matching, or you would like to join the Development Committee please contact Barb Knapp at [bknappp.at.summit@gmail.com](mailto:bknappp.at.summit@gmail.com) / 303.818.7759.



# Summit International Night



**Summit's International Night**  
**Join the festivities and support the Huskies!**  
**November 4<sup>th</sup>, 5:00-7:00 pm**

**Dear Summit families,**

Please mark your calendars for Summit Middle School's first International Night on Friday, November 4<sup>th</sup>, from 5:00 to 7:00 pm. There will be food, activities, dance and music performances from countries around the world.

**You can help make this event a success by:**

- Performing a music piece, a traditional dance or reciting poetry/song in another language
- Suggesting and/or running activities such as henna tattoos, traditional games, calligraphy in another language
- Hosting a country display table (handcrafts, pictures, traditional clothes, etc.)
- Donating food or dessert

For activities, display tables or performances, please contact Mina Comailian ([mcomailian@yahoo.com](mailto:mcomailian@yahoo.com)) or 720-249-2590. For donating food/dessert: please contact Julie Bala ([juliebala@yahoo.com](mailto:juliebala@yahoo.com)) or call 720-890-9523.

Hope to see you all there!

## **Food information for Summit International Night**

Many parents have asked about the details of the food /dessert part of the International Night. We are excited by the interest we have received so far! The food stations will be set up in the school cafeteria, each highlighting a different country or region from around the world. Tickets will be available at the door (for a suggested donation price), and these tickets will be exchanged for a sampler portion of food from each station. Ticket donations help support our school.

It would be great if each parent or a group of parents could bring a dish representing their heritage. You can bring decorations for your stalls and even get dressed in your traditional cultural garb. The dishes should be enough for about 40 people. You (or someone from your group) will serve the food or dessert you provide. However if you are unable to serve, we can assign volunteers to serve the dish you have provided. Please bring the necessary utensils for serving and/or keeping your food warm or cold. Plates, spoons, forks and napkins will be provided.

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Julie Bala at 720-890-9523 or email: [juliebala@yahoo.com](mailto:juliebala@yahoo.com)



## Poetry Corner

Two poems of note by English III students on the subject of bullying:

<p><u>Block</u>, by Kaitlin Knapp</p> <p>Relationships Are a tower of blocks</p> <p>Built up Slowly Carefully over time</p> <p>Tall Seemingly unbreakable</p> <p>But fragile One blow And the whole thing is Toppled Nothing but useless pieces Where something great Once stood</p>	<p><u>Bystander</u>, by Madison Crowley</p> <p>They are the spider Who has me In their sticky web</p> <p>And you are the nearby fly Who waits in the background Doing nothing But watching</p> <p>They are the urging Wind Pulling and pushing Me, a plastic bag</p> <p>And you Are the person Who waits for me To pass, You then move on</p>	<p>They are the naughty child Who throws me On the ground, a book</p> <p>And you are gravity, You let me fall To the floor</p> <p>They are the Tough animal Who chases me And catches me</p> <p>And you are the tall grass, Who covers Their path</p> <p>I am the victim And you...are the bystander</p>
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## Thank You, Parents!

Thank you Summit parents!

Thank you so much to the following parents who were able to help with the delicious conference luncheons for the Summit staff:

Elizabeth Stiles, Mary Rios, Julie Bala, Nina Donahue, Yubei Wu, Laura DeAngelis, Jeannine Harrington, Gail Arant, Vicki Stubbs, Kathy Dessau, Carol Smythe, Vicki Grossman, Tina Fontillas, Jinna Lincoln, Georgina Morrissey, Garam Lee, Janet Bell, Puahau Aki, Shannon Derby, Jackie Marrinan, Kim Christianian, Paula Conroy, Mary Lippi, Janice Garbarini, Yolanda Berea, Xiaoying Song, Yoko Takahashi, Jean Schrag, and Jenny Stein.

The teachers and staff really appreciated the meals during the two long parent/teacher conference days.

David Finell and all the Summit staff

## Summit Graduates News

Congratulations to the Fairview Marching Knights! The marching band includes quite a few Summit graduates and is currently seeded in 2nd place going into the State Championship this weekend. Come watch them compete this Saturday, October 22nd, at 11 am in Colorado State University's Hughes Stadium.



## NJHS News

The Summit chapter of National Junior Honor Society has already accomplished lots this year! In late September, they went on their fall retreat. While on the retreat, members learned about service and leadership through many activities while learning how to work effectively as a team. In addition, they elected their five officers on the fall retreat. Emma Cooney was elected historian, Benjamin Morris was elected treasurer, Brooke Garbarini was elected secretary, Ivo Erben was elected vice president, and Kirsten Walters was elected president.

When they returned from their retreat, members began working on a variety of school service projects. Recently, they held two bake sales for vulnerable children and AIDS orphans in a Zulu village in South Africa. At the bake sales, they raised over two hundred dollars for the orphans and vulnerable children's necessities. National Junior Honor Society is currently organizing Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF and an EFAA Thanksgiving Food Drive here at Summit.

Last year, Summit students raised over \$2,000 for Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF. Below are a few reminders so Summit can donate even more this year.

- National Junior Honor Society will be distributing boxes on October 26<sup>th</sup>, 27<sup>th</sup>, and 28<sup>th</sup> during lunch at the purple picnic tables in front of the school.
- If your child takes a Trick-or-Treat for UNICEF box, remind him/her to give it back to National Junior Honor Society on November 1<sup>st</sup> or 2<sup>nd</sup> at lunch at the purple picnic tables in front of the school even if they did not collect any money.
- Please remind your children to go trick-or-treating in a group and to thank the people who give them donations for UNICEF.

It is a National Junior Honor Society tradition is to hold a Thanksgiving Food Drive. This year, they will be donating the food to Emergency Family Assistance Association (EFAA) here in Boulder. Please donate food to the box in your child's history classroom between November 14<sup>th</sup> and November 16<sup>th</sup>. Some items that EFAA needs are tuna, cereal, peanut butter, chili, refried beans, baby food, black beans, spaghetti and sauce, sugar, flour, and salad dressing. Please do not bring ramen noodles or perishable items. Thank you for your assistance!

Written by NJHS Officers

## Vision and Hearing Screening

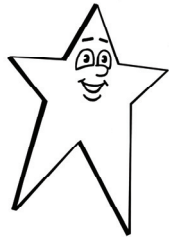
The Vision and Hearing Team successfully screened almost 140 kids on Tuesday, October 18th, with the help of Summit's teachers and staff, and ten wonderful parent volunteers. Students who were screened included all 7<sup>th</sup> graders, students new to the district and other students who were referred for vision and/or hearing. If the screening staff had any concerns about your child, you received a letter in the mail.

Many thanks to the following volunteers for giving us your time and assistance that morning: Christy DeBruyn, Seema Hess, Kristie Hildebrand-White, Kim Christianian, Nicola Ferrell, Gwyn Barley, Kristine Schlager, Diane Buchholz, Kristen Royer and Janet Winchester.

The Health Room



## Eco-cycle Grant



**eco-cycle®**  
Working to Build Zero Waste Communities



Congratulations to our winning schools! This fall, Summit Middle School was awarded one of Eco-Cycle's Green Star Schools grants. This grant provides the school with compostable party-ware for the all-school classroom parties that will be held during the 2011-2012 school year.

The compostable paper plates provided through this grant are made from recycled paper fibers. They do not have a plastic coating. **Plastic-coated paper products must be kept out of the compost stream since plastic does not biodegrade.** The compostable cups and utensils are made with Nature Works PLA polymer, a renewable and biodegradable material made from corn. The cups are marked with a green stripe so students know they are made from corn and not petroleum-based plastic.

Summit Middle School qualified for a grant primarily because of activities sponsored by the NetZero Club: educating younger children about the importance of conserving, planting trees around the school, providing incentives during the "Get-To-School-Green" day and a continued commitment to their community and the environment.

Eleven different applications were made for a Green Star Schools grant. Congratulations to the four winning schools! Through the use of compostable materials, students and staff will be keeping a significant amount of material out of the landfill.

## 2011 Share-a-Coat Program

It's time again to donate those too-small, somewhat-worn, but still-warm coats and other winter garments such as hats, gloves, sweaters and overshoes, to the annual Share-A-Coat program.

This is the 20th year the Boulder Valley Rotary Club, with cleaning services donated by Art Cleaners in Boulder, collects coats from local schools, cleans them and distributes them to families and children who are in need of them.

A box has been provided at Summit, so please send coats you are no longer using to school with your student. Both children and adult size coats are needed!

Boulder Valley Rotary Club volunteers will pick up the coats on 11/3, 11/17 and 12/2. The last pick-up is scheduled for December 2.

A cash donation will also be made depending on how many coats we collect per student. Donations for 1<sup>st</sup> place will be \$150, 2<sup>nd</sup> place - \$100 and 3<sup>rd</sup> place - \$50.

In addition to coats, we are also collecting children's used story books and text-books that can be recycled back through our schools and other educational organizations.

Let's see what we can do for the less fortunate children in our community! Thanks for your support!



## Introducing Pennies for Thought

Aspen Leaf Yogurt's Community Giving Program

We will donate one cent for every ounce of yogurt and toppings that we sell to causes you care about

local non-profits ♦ schools ♦ youth organizations

October's Pennies for Thought Proceeds will Benefit

## Summit Middle School



[www.facebook.com/alyboulder](http://www.facebook.com/alyboulder)

A delicious way to support Summit all month long!

### October 1-31:

Get your friends and family together for a tasty treat -- and help raise money for Summit!

A big thanks to

### Aspen Leaf Yogurt Table Mesa

for choosing Summit as the beneficiary of their October *Pennies for Thought* campaign.

BOULDER BALLET  
BOULDER PHILHARMONIC

*The Nutcracker*

Let the holidays begin...

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

BOULDER BALLET  
BOULDER PHILHARMONIC

*The Nutcracker*

THANKSGIVING WEEKEND

Friday at 4 PM  
Saturday at 2 & 7 PM  
Sunday at 2 PM  
Macky Auditorium

Box Office:  
303.449.1343 ext. 2  
[www.bouldernutcracker.org](http://www.bouldernutcracker.org)



## Nutcracker Tickets On Sale Now

Boulder Ballet will donate 20% of the ticket price to Summit!

[Click to Download Order Form](#)

**Return** completed forms to Summit office by noon **October 27**

**Ticket swill be available November 15**

**Questions?** Contact Summit parent, Suzanne Kauffman  
[suzanne@acroname.com](mailto:suzanne@acroname.com)

## Parent Engagement Network Presents:

### Making Family Life Healthier and Happier By Dr. Jan Hittelman

In our hurried day-to-day lives, it's easy to lose sight of the frequency, quality, and temperament of our family interactions. Yet, family is so important to each of us. That's why it's helpful for us to do an occasional family "check-up". Here are some questions that when answered will provide you with the information you need to make any necessary family "tune-ups":

- How often are we doing fun family activities together?
- Are we giving our children at least as much positive feedback as negative feedback?
- Have we had any 1:1 time with our children lately?
- Does everyone in the family feel comfortable sharing their feelings with each other?
- Do we treat our children with the same respect we expect from them?
- Do we discuss issues as a family and include our children's opinions in resolving conflicts?
- Do we tell our children that we love them and demonstrate our love in our actions?
- Do we forgive ourselves for our imperfections as parents, while striving to learn and grow into the best parents we can be?
- Do we seek out opportunities to learn more about being effective parents and raising happy, well-adjusted children?

The truth is few things are more challenging than parenting and we can use all the help we can get. To learn more about a variety of effective strategies that will benefit your family, participate in the upcoming FREE community events:

**Expert Panel:** How to Reduce Family Conflict

**When:** Monday, November 7<sup>th</sup>, 7:00-8:00pm

**Where:** BVSD Board Room (6500 Arapahoe, Boulder, broadcast live on Channel 22, or streamed live at BVSD.org.

**Submit questions:** [www.BoulderPsychologicalServices.com/channel-22](http://www.BoulderPsychologicalServices.com/channel-22)

**Workshop:** Minimizing Drama & Enhancing Harmony in the Family

**When:** Monday, November 28<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:00pm

**Where:** Meadows Branch Library (4800 Baseline Road, Boulder)

**Facilitator:** Elizabeth Matthews, LPC

**For More information:** [www.BoulderPsychologicalservices.com](http://www.BoulderPsychologicalservices.com)

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#### UPCOMING PEN EVENT:

**Boys and Girls Relate Differently; Celebrating Family Relationships**

**Speak Out, Speak Up!**

Michael Vladeck & Shari Leach

**Wednesday, November 9, 5:45-8:45pm**

Dinner, inclusive panel of women/youth/men

BVSD ED CENTER

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Learn more about PEN by visiting their website: [www.parentengagementnetwork.org](http://www.parentengagementnetwork.org) or by contacting Paula Nelson, PEN chair ([pjn6225@yahoo.com](mailto:pjn6225@yahoo.com), 303-880-6030) or Betsy Fox, PEN Lead Coach, ([foxbetsy123@msn.com](mailto:foxbetsy123@msn.com), 720-563-7007). Dr. Jan Hittelman, a licensed psychologist, is Director of Boulder Psychological Services and the Founder of the Boulder Counseling Cooperative. Questions or comments for this monthly column can be sent via email to: [jan.hittelman@gmail.com](mailto:jan.hittelman@gmail.com), or by phone: 720-217-3270

## Summit News

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

Telephone: 720-561-3900  
Attendance: 720-561-3902  
Fax: 720-561-3901

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

Summit News is available at  
<http://bvsd.org/schools/summit/newsletters/Pages/default.aspx>

Scharmin Dorostkar, Editor  
Please email submissions to  
[summit.office@bvsd.org](mailto:summit.office@bvsd.org).




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## 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.*

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## 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>

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## BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2011-2012 ACADEMIC YEAR

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