

Summit News



Volume 31, Issue 3

February 4, 2011

Summit Calendar

February	
February 4	Sibling Shadow Day 6th and 7th grade course selection forms due in office
February 8	Shadow Day
February 9	Shadow Day Board Meeting, 6:00 pm Library
February 10	Shadow Day
February 11	8th grade course recommendation day (bring high school forms)
February 16	Community Connections Meeting, 8:15 am
February 21	Presidents' Day – No School
February 23	8th grade course sign-up day (bring high school forms) Board Meeting, 6:00 pm
February 25	Professional Development Day, ½ day, 8:00-12:15 pm

March	
March 1-3, 8-10	CSAP testing
March 9	Board Meeting, 6:00 pm, Library
March 10	Annual Community Meeting, 6:30 pm
March 15	Community Connections Meeting, 8:15 am
March 17	Incoming Student Registration Night, 6:30 pm
March 18	3 rd Quarter Ends
March 21-25	Spring break - no school
March 28	Summit in session!

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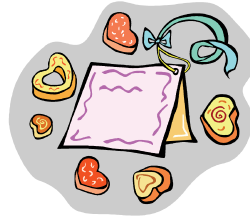
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CSAP Testing—coming up in March!

The Colorado State Assessment Program tests are scheduled this year for March 1, 2, 3, 8, 9, and 10 (only grade 8 will be tested on the last day). All students will be assessed in Math, Reading, and Writing. Eighth grade students will also be assessed in Science.

As we do each year, we are asking Summit families to plan ahead to avoid discretionary absences--like dental appointments--on these days. Meeting the strict guidelines and very limited time window for make-ups of missed sessions is quite a challenge and always requires pulling students from their regular classes to complete the make-ups in time.

As an additional incentive, Summit plans to continue the very popular gift card raffle for students with perfect (or nearly perfect) attendance for testing. More detailed information about the testing schedule will be published and shared with students as the test window approaches.



Summit Spelling Bee 2011 Results

Congratulations to Summit's top spellers for 2011!

Summit's English Department held its school-level spelling competition as part of the Scripps National Spelling Bee during January. Chloe Pradeau, an 8th grader, won the Summit spelling bee for the second year in a row and will be representing Summit at the regional competition on February 19 at Monarch High.

In addition to Chloe, the finalists included: Erin Strand, Sam Chaim-Weismann, Sonya Walker, Yunyu Lin, Annie Chen, and Max Hayward.

Honorable mention also goes to the first round (classroom) winners this year: Samara Angel, Kelsey Knapp, Joseph Stein, Lucius Wang, Tal Sneh, and Laura Meyers (from English I); Alex Walker, Will Roberts, Michael McClurg, Lindsay Coe, and Stevan Maksimovic (from English II); Grant Lurie and Niamh Donohue (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.

8th grade families: Please note that the science fair awards reception scheduled for 2/4/11 has been postponed. (Date to be determined.)

Parents: Please check your email for an important letter from Mr. Finell regarding Summit's February parent-teacher conferences.

Individual Career and Academic Plans

Individual Career and Academic Plans (**ICAPs**) are coming to Boulder Valley School District! Beginning in 2011-12, there will be a renewed and central focus for all 6th through 12th graders to create a vision for their future work. Sixth through twelfth graders will use their online accounts in one of two online career exploration tools (College in Colorado or Naviance) to match interests and skills with potential career clusters or careers and learn what it will take to match their vision with the skills necessary to make that vision come true.

All students will be taught and will practice goal-setting skills in the areas of post-secondary planning, academic planning, and extracurricular planning and will revisit those goals on an annual basis to reflect on what they have learned, what is working, and what needs to be changed. ICAPs provide a tool to merge many aspects of a student's life into a centralized plan for the future.

Watch this website and the school newsletter for more about this exciting means to link current studies and activities with future planning. **ICAP** ... linking today with tomorrow's vision.

Save the Date—Celebrate Summit!

Celebrate Summit!

Friday, April 1, 7:00 – 10:00 p.m.

at BMoCA

Join us for an evening of "chocolate decadence" and an opportunity to socialize with the Summit parent and teacher community. Stay tuned for more details.



Parent Chat—rescheduled to March 10th

Due to the school closures this week, we missed the opportunity for the Parent Chat. We will incorporate the theme of success with next month's focus on the differing ideas about what it takes to raise healthy, happy kids. There is a wide spectrum of approaches and perspectives, including those shared in the recent film "Race to Nowhere" as well as the book [Battle Hymn of the Tiger Mother](#). Join us on March 10th at 8:15 a.m. to share your perspectives and to join as a community in support of our students.

A BIG Thanks

Thanks go to the following Community Connections volunteers who helped create a "Movie at Home" Kit for January's staff appreciation. The Summit staff really enjoys these treats - thanks so much for your generosity!

Pua Aki	Lisa Dierauf	Dana Keel	Linda Rock
Gail Arant	Nina Donohue	Barb Knapp	Kim Tomsic
Dianne Bucholtz	Nanci Feeney	Peyton Lester	Donna Walters
Kelly Coe	Sherry Franz	Irina Petropavlovskikh	Michelle Wieber
Shannon Derby	Janice Garbarini	Shawna Reininger	
Kathy Dessau	Kim Haines	Mary Rios	

Recruiting New Board Members



Are you interested in serving as a Summit board member next year? The Board is especially interested in recruiting parents with financial management, legal and/or fundraising/marketing experience. Board members serve for two-year terms and meetings are usually held twice a month on Wednesday evenings in the school library.

Board Election Schedule

Feb 22, 2011	Last day for prospective board member candidates to apply
Feb 23, 2011	Nominating Committee presents slate of candidates for board approval
Feb 25, 2011	Candidate forum for staff 12:30—1:30 pm (school library)
Mar 1, 2011	Slate and candidate statements will be posted on Summit's website and ballots mailed to all voting members
Mar 10, 2011	Summit Annual Community Meeting: Candidate forum and school update, 6:30 pm in the school library
Mar 17, 2011	Deadline: Ballots must be delivered to Summit office by 3:30 pm
Mar 18, 2011	Vote will be determined and candidates will be contacted

Please contact any of the current board members and/or David Finell, Principal, if you are interested in pursuing a board position. For a better understanding of how the board operates, please consider attending the next board meeting on Wednesday, February 9th, at 6 p.m. in the school library.

Thank you!

Ali Gidfar, Chair 2010/2011 , agidfar.at.summit@gmail.com

Liz Snowden, Chair-designate 2011/2012, lsnowden.at.summit@gmail.com

Seeking volunteer opportunities for your child or teen?

The Volunteer Connection of Boulder County provides a Youth Connection Guide online at http://www.volunteerconnection.net/db/2011_youthguide.pdf that is filled with volunteer jobs for kids of all ages. Issues that volunteers can work for include animals and pets, education, the environment, community, social action, and many more. For more information contact the Volunteer Connection at 303-444-4904 or visit their website at

Summit News

Summit News is the official newsletter of Summit Middle School
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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.bvbsd.org/schools/summit

Summit Office staff, Editor,
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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.*

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://bvbsd.org/openenrollment/Pages/default.aspx>

BOARD OF DIRECTORS 2010-2011 ACADEMIC YEAR

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