



Summit News

May 1, 2009

Boulder Valley's First Charter School

Volume 27, Number 8

The School Calendar

May	June
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Friday, 8th, Board Meeting, 12:00 p.m., 850 6th St., Boulder • Wednesday, 13th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 15th, 1/2 Day, Professional Development Day • Friday, 22nd, Dodgeball Tournament for Smile Train, after school, MPR • Monday, 25th, NO SCHOOL, Memorial Day • Tuesday, 26th, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library • Friday, 29th, Last Day of school, 8th grade Graduation at 1:00 p.m., Boulder High School 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Wednesday, 3rd, Board Meeting, 6:30 p.m., Summit Library
July	August
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Sunday, 16th, Welcome party for students and new families, 5:00 – 6:30 p.m. • Monday, 17th, New student registration and picture day, 7:00 – 9:30 a.m. • Monday, 17th, First day for new students, <u>half day</u> • Monday, 17th, Reception for new parents, 8:15 - 9:30 a.m. • Monday, 17th, Registration and picture day for returning students, 10 a.m. – 3 p.m. • Tuesday, 18th, First day for all students, full day.
<p>* Conference and ½ Day Development Meetings Note: Summit students will be in class 8:00 – 12:15 p.m.</p>	

From the Principal's Office

Mr. David Finell

Teachers Need Help

Teachers have many responsibilities in addition to delivering high quality instruction each day. They must prepare lessons, develop diverse assessments and grade these assessments, attend department and faculty meetings, serve on committees, run clubs and sports, tutor students during office hours, call and meet with parents, check and respond to e-mails and voice messages, and much more.

One of the things I would like to get off our teachers' plates if we can is supervision duties. Supervision duties include having people in the hallway and at Tantra crossing before and after school, and supervision at lunch. This is to help ensure our students are safe and interacting in positive ways before school, at lunch and at the end of the school day. Right now the teachers and administrative staff rotate through these responsibilities but as we have a fairly small faculty and staff (about 30 available people) these supervision duties do add up in terms of how much time they require for everyone each year.

For the coming school year I would love it if parents would step forward to take over these supervision duties in order to free up our faculty and staff. This might look like coming in on Tuesdays from 11:45 - 12:25 to help with lunch supervision. Or it might be that you are willing to arrive each day at 3:00 and be the Tantra crossing guard each day after school for 15 minutes. If we have enough parents step forward we can spread the coverage out so no one person

needs to take on a disproportionate amount of the coverage. It would take a real commitment to always show up at the time you have agreed to. This is a great way to give volunteer hours and support the school in a way that really benefits teachers and staff! A short training on how to effectively supervise will be given to those parents who help.

If you can give some time during the coming school year to help with this please contact our Parent Volunteer Committee Co-Chairwomen: Jackie Marrinan or Birgit Schanz. Jackie can be contacted at: 303-494-5886 or jackiemarrinan@earthlink.net. Birgit can be contacted at: 303-541-9028 or birgitschanz@aol.com.

I thank you and know our teachers will as well.

Mr. Finell,
Principal

FYI

Music is in the Air

Our SPRING CHOIR CONCERT is in less than a week: Thursday, May 7 at 7:00 a.m. at the First Baptist Church in downtown Boulder (across from Hotel Boulderado on Pine Street). Be aware that the church is accessed from the alley behind the church (north side); the west side of the building has a wheelchair ramp, with a door to enter the concert space. Please join us for a wonderful evening of music!

OPENINGS FOR FALL 2009

This year, Summit Middle School is seeking highly qualified candidates for the following teaching positions:

Part time – Math Teacher – 3 (possibly 2) classes per day; to include Algebra B/Geometry, and possibly Advanced Math Topics (Algebra 2 and Trig). Candidates should have MA or BA in math and experience teaching at the middle school or high school level.

Biology Teacher – to teach 6th grade biology course; Candidates should have a BA or MA in science, preferably a life science discipline and experience teaching at the middle or high school level.

Our best candidates come from parents and teachers at Summit – so please share this opening with qualified candidates you might know.

Interested candidates can email their letter of interest, resume, and 3 references to yizi.xu@summitmiddleschool.org (math) and robin.luff@summitmiddleschool.org (biology). More information about the application process and required materials can be found at the Summit website at <http://www.bvsd.org/schools/summit/employment/Pages/default.aspx>

Come view a new Science Textbook

A new textbook for 7th Grade Earth Science is being considered for adoption at Summit. The book is Tarbuck and Lutgens' Earth Science, published by Prentice Hall (2009). It is our practice to place textbooks being considered for adoption in the library for interested parents to have the opportunity to review the textbooks and give input to the Summit administration. This textbook will be available behind the circulation desk in the library for review until May 11. If you have any input on this textbook please contact Mr. Finell or Ms. Avallone with your comments. Thank you.

Come See the Artists of Summit!!!

On Wed. May 13th we will be having an art show featuring a collection of artwork from the second semester art classes at Summit. You are invited to view the art exhibit from 5:30 – 7:00 p.m. in the Multipurpose Room. Then there will be a music program featuring Summit's Instrumental music classes from 7:00 – 8:00 p.m. Please come to see and listen to the talented and creative Summit community.

Calling all Pixie parents: We hope all 6th grade parents and families will join us to cheer on their students during World History classes as we celebrate the Middle Ages on Catapult Day, Thursday May 14th. Catapults may be dropped off outside room 23 before school from 7:35-7:50 a.m. and they must be taken home either right after the class competition or at the end of the day. Please remember the maximum size limit: "be able to fit through the back classroom door."

Congratulations!

Congratulations to Summit math teacher Mr. Thomas Seibel who has been honored with the Jared Polis Foundation's Excellence in Teaching Award for 2009. We are very proud of Mr. Seibel and grateful for his outstanding teaching at Summit!

Another congratulations...

8th grader Sam Black placed 5th in the state level of the National Geographic Bee. It was held on April 3, 2009 at DU. Good job Sam!

8th GRADE FAMILIES:
MARK YOUR CALENDAR!

8th Grade Graduation Party at the Meadows Club in Boulder

Who: All 8th graders are invited

Where: The Meadows Club (5555 Racquet LN, east of 55th Street) in Boulder.

When: Thursday, May 28th, 4-8 pm.

What: Lots of fun activities including swimming, basketball, games, music, barbeque, and a raffle!

Note: A Permission slip for this event can be found on page 7 in this newsletter. Please fill out and return this slip with \$10 to the collection box in the Summit office. Questions: Contact mary.rios@comcast.net

Thank you to Parents:

On behalf of our entire staff at Summit, we would like to thank the Parent Volunteer Committee, along with all of you amazing parents who created an incredible weeklong celebration for us. What fun it was to have a daily display of awesome, creative foods, morning, noon and night! It was delightful listening to one person talk about a particular item and then seeing the

swarm of staff locusts head that way. The cheerful plants, poems and Mom's Acting Up calendar brought smiles to our faces. It was as though each of us had a birthday each day of the week.

In particular, we wish our heartiest thanks upon Birgit Schanz for organizing yet another fête in our honor.

And one final thought: though this week was a spectacular event for all of us, we also truly appreciate the great help and support each and every family provides to Summit year-round. **Wendy Blakemore**

Baruch Summer Art Camp

Can't go two months without ART? Come be a part of Baruch's Summer Art Camp 2009. The camp will offer students outdoor studio art classes and guided tours of local art galleries! We will draw and paint still-lives, landscapes and cityscapes. We will also work in 3-D; making sculptures out of natural found objects, sand, beads, wire and wood. The camp will meet for two weeks, starting June 1st through June 12th, Monday through Friday 9 -12. All art supplies will be provided! For more information contact Sue Baruch. Don't miss out on this great summer opportunity!

Spring Semester, Final exam schedule, 2009

Summit Middle School teaches an academically rigorous, standards-based curriculum. Students are expected not merely to spend a certain number of days in each classroom, but also to master particular skills and content. Systematic assessment of student progress, therefore, is central to the curriculum—teachers need to know how much of the course material students have learned and retained throughout each year of study. One of the main reasons Summit teachers plan “finals” (whether exams, projects, or writing assignments) for the last two weeks of each course is to determine the “exit status” of each child in the class.

To keep the student workload manageable, Summit teachers stagger their final activities over the course of a week. Our goal is to allow students to devote all (or almost all) of their homework time to preparing for one subject on the eve of the final. * This is not to suggest, however, that “cramming” the night before is sufficient; students should begin their preparation well in advance of the actual “finals” day.

The finals schedule for 2009 is as follows:

Date	Subject
Finals will be taken during your child's regular class on the following days: Wednesday, May 20	World Language
Thursday, May 21	English

Friday, May 22	Social Studies
Tuesday, May 26	Math (Proof Geometry classes will be having their final earlier)
Wednesday, May 27	Science

***Note:** Some activities may take longer than one class period, so some “spillover” is inevitable. The goal, however, is that no additional studying or preparation should have to take place after the official “final” date.

**Please note:
Textbooks MUST be turned in to the teacher on the day of the final in that class! Please make sure to bring them on that day.**

International Club

CARNIVAL

It is here! Please join us on Tuesday, May 12th, from 3:00-5:00 p.m. for a few fun hours of games, food and happiness! The entry price of \$3.00 includes almost all the games you care to play, including the fabulously popular inflatable games!

Outdoor Fun

Obstacle Course
Bungee Run and Jousting
Human Spheres (hamster balls)
Velcro Wall

Indoor Fun

Can Smash
Ring Toss
Coin Toss (this one is on your dimes)
Toilet Toss
Ladderball

Prizes for the indoor games.

Food and drink for sale. Churros, Jarritos soda, Stoplight lollypops, Giant Pixie Sticks, a variety of candy and chips... and more!

If any adults would like to volunteer to help on that day, please contact Mrs. Blakemore at wblakemore2@gmail.com. This would allow our members to participate as well!

We always welcome our incoming 6th graders to attend. Come meet your Summit classmates.

StreamTeam

The StreamTeam clean up on April 20th was a collaborative effort between the International Club and Net Zero Club. The creek in Tantra Park looks beautiful and is flowing clearly! Many thanks to our members for helping to keep our community clean. Thank you to Lisa Dierauf for her ongoing support and guidance.

Adopt-A-Road

The spring clean up is scheduled for this Sunday, May 3rd, from 1:00 – 3:00. Members should arrive at the entrance to the Reservoir at 1:00 and be picked up at Glacier ice Cream on 28th St. at 3:00 sharp. Bring gloves. Wear sunscreen.

SCIENCE FAIR SUCCESS!

From Ms. Haydee Phelps Ayi-Bonte,
Science Fair Coordinator

Once again, I am thrilled and filled with pride after another year of Summit Science Fair! Congratulations to ALL 8th grade students for their **OUTSTANDING EFFORT** and **VERY IMPRESSIVE** projects!

This year there were a total of 90 projects in the Summit Science Fair Round One. The following 40 projects were selected as semifinalists to compete in the Summit Science Fair Round Two:

MARTY BENZ	*BELINDA PAK
*SAM BLACK	LEE PAPPAS
*KRISTIN BREAKELL	*AARON PERLEY
*ANDREA BRENT	ANNE PINKHAM AND ANNA SIMON
SUSAN BROADFOOT	SARAH PYKKONEN
*MAX BUSTER	*CIERRA RUSS
*KEVIN CHEN	*MICHAEL SELTZER
*KYLE CHRISTENSEN	*ISABELLA SOEHN
*RACHEL CONWAY	ADDISON STARN
ELENA FILATOVA	*MEERA TAWA
*CAMRON GIDFAR	*MELINDA VICKERS
KATE GLYNN	*MICHELLE VONICK
CHRISTIAN GREGORICH AND PHILIP SWISHER	SARAH WALTERS
SHAWNA GUSTAFSON	*AMELIA WALTMAN
*DORUK HACIOGLU	OLIVIA WEED
*JENS HYBERTSON	GINI YOST
*JONAH KIM	*JOSH YOUNG
*KATIE KOWAL	
TALIA KRACAUER	
JENNIFER KUHN	
MATT LARGHI	
*NICHOLAS MORRIS	
ROBIN O'STEEN	

23 of these projects were selected as **Summit Science Fair finalists** (in bold and marked with an * **asterisk** in the list above) and represented Summit Middle School at the Roche Colorado Regional Science Fair on Thursday February 26, 2009 at The University of Colorado- Boulder campus. They won many honors and awards, listed below:

KRISTIN BREAKELL: City of Boulder Water Quality Award
ANDREA BRENT: 2nd Place, Energy and Transportation Jr. Division
MAX BUSTER: 2nd Place, Engineering Jr. Division; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
KYLE CHRISTENSEN: 3rd place Environmental Sciences Jr. Division; Science in the Service of the Community Award; Thorne Ecological Institute Honorable Mention
RACHEL CONWAY: City of Boulder Water Quality Award
CAMRON GIDFAR: 1st Place Medicine and Health Jr. Division; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
DORUK HACIOGLU: 3rd Place Chemistry Jr. Division; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
JENS HYBERTSON: 1st Place Microbiology Jr. Division; STATE QUALIFIER; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
JONAH KIM: 2nd Place Behavioral and Social Sciences; American Psychological Association Award; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
KATIE KOWAL: Extraordinary Data Collection and Analysis Award; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
BELINDA PAK: 1st Place Chemistry Jr. Division; STATE QUALIFIER; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
AARON PERLEY: City of Boulder Water Quality Award
MICHAEL SELTZER: 1st Place Behavioral and Social Sciences Jr. Division; STATE QUALIFIER
ISABELLA SOEHN: 1st Place Physics Jr. Division; STATE QUALIFIER; BEST JUNIOR PROJECT (wins BVSD-paid trip to observe the INTEL International Science and Engineering Fair in Reno, NV this May!); ColdQuanta Jr. Award; NCAR Science Award; Discovery Education and 3M nomination
MEERA TAWA: 2nd Place Medicine and Health Jr. Division
MELINDA VICKERS: 1st Place Plant Sciences

AMELIA WALTMAN: 1st Place Energy and Transportation
JOSH YOUNG: City of Boulder Water Quality Award

Jens Hybertson, Belinda Pak, Michael Seltzer, and Isabella Soehn were selected at the district fair to represent Summit and the Boulder Valley School District at the Roche Colorado State Science and Engineering Fair, held at Colorado State University in Fort Collins on April 9-12, 2009. All of our students won recognition in their categories. The following honors were awarded to Summit students at the state level:

Jens Hybertson: 2nd Place Microbiology Jr. Division; American Statistical Association Jr. Award
Belinda Pak: 1st Place Chemistry Jr. Division
Michael Seltzer: Honorable Mention Behavioral and Social Sciences Jr. Division; Human Factors and Ergonomics Society Award
Isabella Soehn: 1st Place Physics Jr. Division; American Vacuum Society 1st Place Jr. Award

Summit Alumni were well represented at the district and state level fairs, winning honors and recognition in their categories. For more information on Summit Alumni and the full results of both fairs, you can go to the BVSD website or the CSEF website.

Congratulations to ALL of our 8th grade participants, semi-finalists, finalists, and regional fair and state fair participants and award winners!

We look forward to hearing from **Isabella Soehn** about her trip to the International Science and Engineering Fair this May!

SCIENCE FAIR VOLUNTEER HONOR ROLL! **THANK YOU!!!**

A big thank you to **Mr. Teasdale and Ms. Saalwachter** for their support of the students.

Also, a very special thanks to parent coordinator and **SUPER SCI-FAIR WOMAN, Christy Lapp**.

Thanks to **Al Betz and Rita Boreiko** for setting up the judging schedules...a tremendous feat!

A special thank-you to IRB volunteer members, **Jenny Schwartz and Pamela Guthrie**, for reviewing all the medical and behavioral science projects for safety.

Also, big thanks to all of the parent and community volunteers who helped us out from the biggest on down to the smallest details, from judging, to scoring, to catering. We could not have done it without you!

MENTORS AND WORK DAYS

Thank you to the following people who came to Summit on Saturday workdays to mentor students and provide valuable guidance for their science fair projects: **Jeff Anderson, George Deriso, Mark Hanna, Mihail Codrescu, Brian Vickers, Al Betz, Pamela Guthrie, Dick Kautz, Chris Cooper, Jenny Schwartz, Mansour Nipour-fard, Todd Bernatsky, Voicu Popescu, Brian Bloechle, Sanjay Dixit, David Pappas, Nancy Richey, Chris Walker, Marie Zanowick, and Emilio Suarez.**

JUDGES

Great appreciation to the judges who spend time reviewing and judging the projects: **Sam Benz, Todd Bernatsky, Al Betz, Martin Black, Tom Brown, Michaelb Carter, Jim Fitzpatrick, Maria Gamboa, Janice Garbarini, Eric Grossman, John Hilson, Bruce Honeyman, Leyla Jacobs, Dick Kautz, Dan Kowal, Rainer Kunz, Sue Kunz, Christy Lapp, Andrew Morely, Brad Newhouse, John O'Loughlin, Mariusz Pagowski, Cheryl Reifsnnyder, Mike Ritzwoller, John Schlager, Jenny Schwartz, Marty Snow, Steve Waltman, Susan Wang, Jeff Webb, Kathy Young, Marie Zanowick, and Chris Cooper.**

HOSPITALITY

Thanks to Kathy Dessau for organizing the wonderful lunches for the judges on the 8th and 15th of January. The other volunteers who brought set-up, brought food and cleaned up the lunches; **Marie-Pierre Nicoletti, Janet Winchester, Kathryn Foster, Susanne Metzler, Julie Scott, Jackie Marrinan, Frances Hartogh, Karen Pyle, Aerial Brent, Kirstine Schlager, Lea Peashock, Linda Rock, Elizabeth Benz, Birgit Schanz, Linda Dong, and Lyne Cahn.**

LOGISTICS

Lyne Cahn, Lea Peashock and Alison Hybertson for scoring and tabulating the results.
NJHS students for setting up the tables for the projects.

2009 Summit Middle School
ALL 8th Grade Class Graduation Party

The ALL class Graduation party is a non-Summit Middle school sponsored event planned and supervised by Summit parents but not part of the Summit Middle School related graduation activities. For any questions on this event please contact: mary.rios@comcast.net

This form along with payment can be dropped off at the school office in the box labeled 'Graduation Party'.

We would like to have all forms and payments submitted to the office by May 15 in order to determine numbers and food budget.

Date: Thursday May 28

Time: 4pm - 8pm

Location: The Meadows Club

5555 Racquet Lane, Boulder, Co 80303

Cost: \$10 includes entry and all food, drinks

(Please indicate if you need assistance with this cost)

Food: BBQ with burgers, dogs, chips, drinks and more

Activities: Swimming, basketball, volleyball and more

_____ has my permission to attend the Graduation party for Summit 8th graders. I understand that Summit Middle School is not responsible for any aspect of this event and it is outside of normal bvsd activities.

Please pay with cash or a check made out to Mary Rios.

_____ (\$10) included -or- _____ Financial assistance needed

(Parent Signature)

(Student's Name—printed)

Come take a two hour tour!

GILLIGAN'S ISLAND, THE MUSICAL



"Love among the coconuts!"

~People Magazine

THE COLORADO PREMIERE!

Friday, May 8 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, May 9 2:00 & 7:00 p.m.

Fairview High School, Knights Auditorium

1515 Greenbriar Boulevard, Boulder

Ticket sales at Fairview starting May 6, 11:30 AM

General Admission *All Seats Only \$5.00*

For advanced tickets email gilligantickets@gmail.com or call
303.499.2361

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.

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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.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

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