



Summit News

May 5, 2005

Boulder Valley's First Charter School

Volume 19, Number 8

Summit School Calendar

May

- Friday, 6th - **Spanish Carnival After School!**
See more details on this page.
- Tuesday, 17th After school concert rehearsals for Jazz Band 1 & 2 – 3:15-4:15 p.m.
- Thursday, 19th After school concert rehearsals for Jazz Band 1 & 2, Orchestra and Select Strings – 3:15 – 4:15 p.m.
- Tuesday, 24th Instrumental Music Concert – 7:00 p.m. at Platt M.S. Musicians arrive at 6:30 p.m.
- Weds., 25th Vocal Music Concert – 7:00 p.m. at Platt M.S. Musicians arrive at 6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, 31st Out-of-School Awards Ceremony at end of school day

June

- Thursday, 9th - 8th Grade Graduation Party
6:00 p.m. – 10 p.m.
University Memorial Center
- Friday, 10th Last day for 6th & 7th graders. Eighth Grade Graduation Ceremony – 1:00-2:30 p.m. at Boulder High. Details below.

Calendar Notes

Summit's Winter Break dates have been rescheduled to coincide with those of BVSD: December 21, 2005 – January 3, 2006

Orientation and registration for 6th grade students will be the morning of August 19th, and registration for returning 7th and 8th graders will be during the afternoon of August 19th. More details will be provided soon.

2005 Summit 8th Grade Graduation Ceremony Schedule

On Friday, June 10th, all 8th graders and students involved with graduation music should report to the Boulder High School Auditorium at 10:00 a.m. for graduation rehearsal. Lunch will be provided. That day, all 6th & 7th graders should bring a sack lunch to Summit for the last day of classes. The schedule will be abbreviated, and students will then be bussed to BHS for graduation ceremony attendance. The ceremony is 1:00 to 2:30 p.m., followed by a reception until 3:00 p.m. All students must be picked up by 3:00 p.m. sharp from BHS.

Attention 8th Graders!

Mark your calendars for the 8th Grade Graduation Party on Thursday, June 9th from 6:00 to 10:00 p.m. at Connections in the University Memorial Center. There will be unlimited bowling, pool, video games, music, food and lots of fun. Parents: As this event is funded solely through family contributions, we are requesting a minimum donation of \$20 per graduate. Financial assistance is available, and any remaining funds will go to Tools for Learning. Invitations will be sent out soon, with more details and a response form. Questions? Contact Linda Stancliffe at stancliffe@aol.com or 303 443-0523.

Photos Needed! Also, Charla Berens is looking for pictures from your time at Summit. She is creating a photo montage for the party full of great memories from your pixie days and on. Please contact her if you can contribute at charlab@comcast.net.

Calling All Parents of 6th & 7th Graders

We need your help! It's traditional for parents of 6th and 7th graders to coordinate the 8th grade graduation and reception so that all 8th grade families can enjoy this important milestone without having to worry about the details! There are a variety of duties and time shifts available...and we sure could use some volunteers. The event is June 10th, and volunteers are needed from 11:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Please contact me at call or 303-530-2037 or by e-mail at beth_cendali@comcast.net

Spanish Club Carnival TOMORROW!

Join the fun at the 4th Annual Spanish Club Carnival. Enjoy games such as Eat a Donut from a String, Dime Toss, Board Hockey, Throw a Football through a Tire and Face Painting. Raffles include the chance to Pie a Teacher or win a filled piñata. Duck tape a staff member to the wall...can we suspend one this year?! Free tug-o-war and sack races. Food! Cotton candy, Popsicles, taquitos, nachos, Jarritos soda, Mexican and American candies and more! The Carnival is Friday, May 6th, from 3:15 -5:00 p.m. \$1.00 entry. Games from 10-50 cents. All proceeds will be donated to Columbine Elementary for school supplies for families in need. Prizes include gently used stuffed animals. If you win one you can keep it or donate it to a box to be given to the Family Learning Center! Many thanks to Mr. Zettas for donating his time for the bike ride raffle. Amos and friends will have a terrific time! ---Mrs. Blakemore and Ms. Doyle

Dear Parents,

I want to inform you of two changes to the Summit calendar for the coming 2005-2006 school year. The first change involves parent/teacher conferences and the second change involves the winter vacation.

Parent/Teacher Conferences

First, we have heard the concerns regarding long lines and some people feeling frustrated that they were not able to meet with all of their children's teachers. In response to those concerns this coming school year we will be trying a new format for parent/teacher conferences. This means that next year instead of parent/teacher conferences being on the dates and times previously indicated, they will be held on the following dates and times:

Fall Conferences:

Tuesday, October 18, 2005, 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Families with last names A-L

Wednesday, October 19, 2005, 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Families with last names M-Z

*Please note that Thursday, October 20, 2005 will be a full day of school for all students, and Friday, October 21, there will be no school for Summit Charter Day.

Winter Conferences:

Tuesday, February 14, 2005, 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Families with last names A-L

Wednesday, February 15, 2005, 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.

Families with last names M-Z

*Please note that Thursday, February 16, 2006 will be a regular full day of school for all students, and Friday, February 17, there will be no school.

On all conference days, students will be in school from 8:10 a.m. – 12:20 p.m., with periods of 30 minutes each. Lunch will not be provided at school but there will be an extended nutrition break occurring later than usual in the morning; please send a healthy snack with your child.

In order to ensure a more even distribution of attendance and help cut down on the time everyone has to wait to meet with teachers, please attend conferences on the date assigned to you according to the first letter of your last name (see above).

Winter Vacation

Second, in regard to Winter Vacation, the Summit Board has decided to change the dates of the Summit Winter Vacation to conform to the BVSD calendar. We had originally scheduled our vacation for the last two weeks of December. Nevertheless, it was ultimately decided that as so many of our families have other children in other BVSD schools, not aligning our vacation with the rest of BVSD would impose an undue hardship on many of our families.

This means Summit will be taking our winter vacation from Wednesday, December 21, 2005 – Tuesday, January 3, 2006. School will resume on Wednesday, January 4, 2006.

The Summit Board, faculty and administration understand that some families may choose to begin their vacations early and/or return from vacation late. We strongly discourage families from doing this! Teachers will be instructed to teach full lessons on December 19th and 20th, and also on January 4th through 6th. Students missing school on those days due to families taking extended vacations will not receive credit for work missed.

Thank you -- *Mr. Finell, Principal*

Tools for Learning Campaign Draws to a Close (But We Still Need You!)

--Dolly Dean, Chair

There are only six weeks of school remaining. If you haven't yet pledged to this year's Tools for Learning campaign – WE NEED YOU NOW! We have received almost \$86,000 in donations from 186 currently enrolled families, friends and alumni. Sixty-nine percent of our currently enrolled families have participated and we are 86% of the way to our fundraising goal. EVERY DONATION COUNTS AND MOVES US CLOSER TO OUR GOALS OF 100% participation and \$100,000. If you have not yet donated, WE WILL BE MAILING YOU ANOTHER PLEDGE CARD IN THE NEXT WEEK – PLEASE RETURN IT WITH WHATEVER DONATION IS COMFORTABLE FOR YOU AND YOUR FAMILY.

We will continue to accept donations to this year's campaign until June 13th (the Monday after graduation). Donations received after that date will be credited to next year's campaign.

As I wrap up my second year of chairing this campaign, I am touched by the overwhelming generosity of our community - the teachers, staff, administration, alumni and friends – who make Summit the wonderful place that it is and give their all for the good of our students! My personal thanks to all of you!

Many thanks, also, to the following recent donors to the campaign:

Anonymous

Carolyn and Jim Bondarovich

Robyn and John Gedney

Jiri Hladis and Jaroslava Hladisova

John and Joanna Heilbrunn

Gretchen and Doug Miller

Pam and Ted Ringenbach

Great Job, Ryan!!! Wow!!!

Congratulations to 7th grader Ryan Shannon for his winning violin performance in the Boulder County 2005 Stars Of Tomorrow Talent Show! Ryan won First Place in the Junior Classical Division.

Welcome Mr. Seibel

We're delighted to welcome Thomas Seibel as our new math teacher for the 2005/2006 school year. Mr. Seibel is a computer scientist with a strong math background. He spent many years in the High-Tech industry before he decided a few years ago to make a career change and move into the teaching profession. We all are very pleased to have Mr. Seibel on Summit's faculty as of the coming school year.

A big thank you to the math hiring committee, namely Valerie Koch, Judy Oberer, Toni Ozeroff, Nancy Pennington, Cathy Reisfield and Lauren Tracey, for their diligent work and excellent contributions to this successful hiring process. ---

Rainer Kunz, Summit Board

Merci, Mr. Reed

The French II class would like to say "merci" to Mr. Adam Reed and everyone at The Kitchen Cafe on Pearl Street who welcomed us so warmly to their restaurant. C'etait hyper-bon! The Kitchen staff prepared and served an excellent lunch expressly for 23 of our students on April 28th. Students had the opportunity to dine on chevre, pate, steak frites, omelet, and pot au chocolat, to name a few of the tasty choices available. We are truly grateful for this experience and hope that The Kitchen enjoyed having our French II class visit.

All of the French classes send a giant "merci" to everyone at Spruce Confections who made our visits this year possible, including the Cohens - Jessica, Mike, Rob, Sam, Sarah, and Tasha. Students had a tour of the bakery with a description and demonstration of the intricate process of making croissants. Of course, we had to taste the delicious fruits of the bakers' labors as well, and indulged in pain au chocolat (chocolate-filled croissants) and other goodies! A special thanks to Rachel and Scott for making seemingly endless amounts of steamers and cocoas for us! We hope to see you all again next year! -- *Annie Perrine*

Information About Summer Textbooks

Students who would like to use Summit textbooks during the summer are asked to purchase their own by calling: Follett Pre-owned Textbooks, Phone: 1-800-621-4272 or Website: www.fes.follett.com

You will need to give them the ISBN number of the text. Credit cards are accepted. You may also consider checking out other on-line sellers of textbooks, such as E-bay.

Unfortunately, Summit is not able to loan textbooks during the summer months. All textbooks must be returned so they can be re-catalogued, repaired, and made ready for distribution when school starts again in August.

Art in the Summertime

Can't go two months without ART? Come be a part of Baruch's Summer Art Camp 2005. The camp will offer students outdoor studio art classes and guided tours of local art galleries! We will draw and paint still-life, landscapes and portraits. We will also work in 3-D, making sculptures out of natural found objects, wire and wood. The camp will meet for two weeks, starting June 20th through July 1st, Monday through Friday, 9:00 a.m. to noon. All art supplies will be provided! For more information, contact Sue Baruch. Don't miss out on this great summer opportunity!



Grocery Certificates...Stock Up

Grocery certificates will be sold on Friday, May 6th, Friday May 20th and Friday June 4th in the front parking lot during morning drop-off (7:45 – 8:15 a.m.) You'll have the choice of King Soopers paper certificates (\$25 denominations) and King Soopers, Safeway and Wild Oats debit cards (\$100 denominations).

We do not sell certificates over the summer. If anyone wants to stock up on certificates/debit cards for the summer they should send me an e-mail and I will contact them regarding their order.

Thanks to everyone who has been purchasing certificates. Through March, we have sold more than \$44,000 worth of certificates and debit cards for a profit to our school of over \$2,200.

-- *Dolly Dean*

History Day 2005 Results

---Sam Havens

On Saturday, April 23rd, 15 seventh graders from Summit participated in Colorado State History Day. This annual event was held at the University of Colorado at Boulder. More than 500 students from around the state came to Boulder for this one-day exposition of History.

The following students from Summit competed in the event:

Individual Research Papers: *Caila Criss, Connie Ge, Catherine Seltz*

Group Documentaries: *Daniel Haarburger, Cameron Smith, Taj Dunn, Neeve Fuhrman*

Individual Documentaries: *Alan Seltzer, A.J. Mandula*

Group Performances: *Sam Goldner, Raphael Minot, Martin Sotola, Matt Green*

Individual Performance: *Lindsey Schaller, Anna Barnes*

Congratulations, Connie Ge!!!!

Every student worked to improve his or her projects from prior competition. Summit students distinguished themselves from many other projects with their high level of historical analysis and creativity. One student in particular made an impression on the judges. Connie Ge's paper titled "Art and Literature Propaganda of The Chinese Cultural Revolution" earned the distinction of first place in the Junior Division (Middle School). Connie will travel to the University of Maryland to compete in National History Day during the second week of June. Congratulations to Connie and all of Summit's State History Day participants.

Late in the afternoon of the History Day competition, three current students and one former student had the opportunity to meet and sit down with Colorado Lieutenant Governor Jane Norton, the event's keynote speaker. Prior to the awards ceremony, Lieutenant Governor Norton sat down with Alan Seltzer, Caila Criss, Anna Barnes and Sabine Kunz (Summit class of '04) to hear their views on History and History Day. After Anna Barnes performed her History Day project on Shakespeare, students commented on their experiences and interests relating to History and History Day. Lieutenant Governor Norton, a former middle school teacher herself, discussed the importance of programs like History Day because of what it can bring out in students. All of the Summit students offered their views of History Day and the importance of studying history. Summit should be proud of Alan, Caila, Anna and Sabine as they were true ambassadors to Summit Middle School and History Day.

Intro to Japan Students

Get a Taste of Japan

On April 18th, 20 students from Mr. Havens' Introduction to Japan class headed to Pearl Street to visit Japango Restaurant. The purpose of the visit was to experience the delicious delicacies of Japan, and to understand the theory and presentation of Japanese food, primarily sushi.

Students were treated to Japanese soda, miso soup and a wide variety of sushi. The staff at Japango went out of its way to demonstrate the wide variety of the fishy treats. Students sampled "nigiri" or traditional sushi (fish on rice), "sashimi" choice cuts of fish, and "maki" or rolls (fish, vegetables and rice rolled up in a thin sheet of seaweed). During the making of the sushi, students were taught how the presentation of the sushi was equally as important as the taste of the sushi. The presentation explained how the workspace and the tools used are essential in creating appetizing and beautiful food.

Thank you to Japango and to the parent drivers (Mrs. Richard, Mrs. Cardinal, Mrs. Hanssen and Mrs. Mashaw) for making this field trip happen.

– Sam Havens

Spanish Class News

Level 1 and Level 2 Spanish classes had a wonderful field trip in April. We visited a Mexican market called Longmont Packing and loaded up on the sights, sounds and smells of the *carnicería* (meat/cheese market), deli, *panadería*, fruit and veggies section, and many other wonderful Mexican food and household products. Next, we ventured into to Denver to the Restaurant El Noa Noa for a fabulous feast! The staff was helpful and we were able to practice our Spanish. We walked down to El Museo de las Américas to see an exhibit of the works of Siqueiros, a famous Mexican muralist who used his art to show social change. All students created artwork showing their own feelings about social change. Many thanks to our parent volunteers who helped chaperone: Mrs. Luce, Mrs. Hartogh, Mrs. Ballantine, both Mrs. Gerstles, Mrs. Drake, Mrs. Guenther and Mrs. Kerry. A special thanks to Mrs. Hernandez, an accomplished artist, who quickly arranged a gallery tour to fill the time between the restaurant and the museum! ---Wendy Blakemore

Counselor's Corner

---Kendra Barkley

Workforce Boulder County is offering a four-part series, "You've Got the Look: Preparing for Your Role in the Workplace," that teaches young adults how to look for jobs, apply and interview, and act professionally on the job. Students who complete the series will have the opportunity to apply for other Workforce services, including summer job search assistance and the SEED internship programs. All activities are free to young adults age 14-21. For more information about the workshops, contact Anna Wilcox at 303-301-2915 or boulder_amw@wfbc.org. You can also visit the website, www.wfbc.org and click "For Youth."

Summit School Calendar – 2005-2006

August 19	Orientation/registration for new students: 8:00 a.m. – 12:30 p.m.
August 19	Registration for returning students: A-K 12:00 – 1:30 p.m., L-Z 1:30 – 3:00 p.m.
August 22	First full day for all students
September 5	Labor Day - no school
September 8	Picture Day 8:30 – 11:30 a.m.; Back to School night - 6:30 p.m.
September 22	Helping Your Child Succeed at Summit - 6:30 p.m.
October 4	Vision/Hearing Screening
October 18	Parent/Teacher conferences 1:30 – 6:30 p.m.*
October 19	Parent/Teacher conferences 1:30 - 6:30 p.m.*
October 21	Summit Charter Day-No school
October 26	First quarter ends
November 11	Veterans Day - No school
November 21-25	Thanksgiving holiday-No school
November 28	School resumes
December 21 – January 3	Winter Break-No school
January 4	School resumes
January 13	Professional development day - No school
January 16	Martin Luther King Jr. Day - No school
January 19	First semester ends
February 14	Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30-6:30 p.m.*
February 15	Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30-6:30 p.m.*
February 17	No school
February 20	Presidents' Day-No school
March 27-31	Spring Break - No school
April 3	School resumes
April 5	Third quarter ends
April 21	Summit Day-No school
May 29	Memorial Day-No school/ Bolder Boulder Race
June 9	Last day of classes and Eighth Grade Graduation
	* Conference Day Note: Students will be in class 8:10-12:20. Lunch is not offered, but Nutrition Break will be longer and a bit later in the day.

Summit is looking for a part-time algebra teacher to begin work in August 2005. Candidates must enjoy working with middle school students, have expertise teaching math at the middle school or high school level, and have a valid teaching certification. Please submit a cover letter, resume, transcript, and at least three references to Mr. Rainer Kunz, Math Hiring Committee, Summit Middle School, 4655 Hanover Avenue, Boulder, CO 80305. Additional information regarding this position can be found on the Summit web site.

Bolder Boulder Info

Hurrah for everyone who got his/her form in to Mrs. Blakemore on time! We have about 80 students and staff and 50 family and friends signed up. We'll have your packets before long!

GOOD NEWS! You can still sign up and represent Summit. Take your yellow form (still available at school) to any Bolder Boulder registration site and your registration will count towards Summit...AND, as long as supplies last, you'll get a goodie bag. TAKE YOUR FORMS IN TODAY! LET'S WIN THE PARTICIPATION AWARD AGAIN. We are at about 25% and last year we had 29%. Join the fun!!!!!!!

Career in News Available

I'll be resigning as Summit newsletter editor after this school year. This is a great volunteer position for anyone who works on a computer and who has a little bit (not too much necessary) of writing, editing and Word experience. To learn more about this rewarding career opportunity, please contact the volunteer coordinator at Summit, or me, Valerie McBeth, at 303-494-8052 or vjmcbeth@comcast.net

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. Renee Reaven, Dean of School.

Telephone: 303-499-9511. Attendance: 303-447-5529. Fax: 303-499-0215.

Summit News is mailed to the parents of enrolled students. Others are added to the mailing list upon request. Summit News is available on Summit's World Wide Web pages at <http://summitmiddleschool.org>. Valerie McBeth, Editor, vjmcbeth@comcast.net.

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 procedure at the beginning of the calendar year. Summit fills openings from its waiting list throughout the fall semester.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS – 2004-2005 ACADEMIC YEAR

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