



# Summit News

April 2, 2007 Boulder Valley's First Charter School Volume 23, Number 6

## The School Calendar

April	May
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Monday, 2<sup>nd</sup>, school resumes</li> <li>Wednesday, 4<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Wednesday, 18<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Friday, April 20<sup>th</sup>, Summit Day, NO SCHOOL</li> <li>Wednesday, 25<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, 2<sup>nd</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Wednesday, 16<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Monday, 28<sup>th</sup>, Memorial Day, NO SCHOOL</li> <li>Wednesday, 30<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> </ul>
June	July
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Wednesday, 6<sup>th</sup>, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</li> <li>Friday, 8<sup>th</sup>, Last Day of School</li> <li>Friday, 8<sup>th</sup>, Eighth grade graduation</li> </ul>	
<p>* Conference and ½ Day Development Meetings Note: Summit students will be in class 8:10 – 12:20 p.m.</p>	

## FYI

### **Faculty Positions Available – August 2007**

**Physical Education teacher** - Background and experience teaching PE in middle school (preferred) or high school. Salary based on experience and education; benefits.

**Math teacher (algebra A and B)** - A strong background in math and experience teaching math at the middle school or high school level is required. Ability to meet Colorado Department of Education Highly Qualified Teacher status required. Salary based on experience and education; benefits.

Interested applicants should submit a letter of interest, resume, three references, academic transcripts and answers to the "Questions for applicants" found at the school website. These may be submitted by email (preferred) to [Jobs\(at\)summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:Jobs(at)summitmiddleschool.org); or by mail or fax to:

Summit Middle School Teacher Application – Math OR Physical Education  
Attn: Becky Morley  
4655 Hanover Avenue  
Boulder, Colorado 80305  
Fax: 303-499-0215

### **Hiring Committees**

We'd love to have your help on one of our hiring committees this spring. Our committees consist of a board member, a faculty member, and interested parents who can help with the logistics of hiring (reference checks, setting up demonstration classes, for example) and the interviewing and selection of

faculty for next year. Our committee to hire a new PE teacher is forming now and we expect we'll have additional committees in April. Please contact Becky Morley at [becky.morley\(at\)summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:becky.morley(at)summitmiddleschool.org) if you are interested in participating.

### **Student Council News**

In an effort to increase awareness of the current Sudanese genocide, Student Council will be distributing yard signs that promote Darfur awareness. If you would like a sign to put up in your yard, please come and pick up a sign that Student Council will be distributing on the 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> of April. You may also write and sign a note that allows your student to come and pick one up themselves. They will be distributed on Tantra after school, so if you would like one please come and pick one up on these dates. We have a limited number of signs and we will be distributing them on a first come, first served basis. Thank you.



### **Track Is Coming**

We invite and encourage all Summit students to join the Summit Track Team. The season begins April 13 and ends May 15 (7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grades) and May 22 (6<sup>th</sup> grade). Summit traditionally has outstanding participation in track and everyone enjoys achieving personal goals while feeling the camaraderie of a team sport. A meeting with Coaches Blakemore, Kolanowski and Liebowitz will be held Wednesday, April 4, during lunch in Room 6. Please pick up your forms by the office and turn them in with your check ASAP.

**IMPORTANT:** *Double check that your school sports physical is current. They expire after one year exactly so if you had your check-up after April of 2006, you will need to get another one.* Each year we have quite a few students who are not allowed to start practice because of a missing physical form. Check now!!

We practice daily, except meet days. Generally, we jog up to Fairview to use their quality track and equipment. Practices go until 4:15 or 4:30. If we are at Fairview, you may pick up your child there or s/he will jog back down to Summit.

### **MEET DAYS:**

7<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> grade team meets are on Mondays, 4/23, 4/30 and 5/7. The culminating meet for the boys is Monday, 5/14 and for the girls, Monday, 5/15.

6<sup>th</sup> grade team meets are on Wednesdays, 4/25, 5/2 and 5/9. The culminating meet for the boys is Monday, 5/21 and for the girls, Tuesday, 5/22.

### **Important Reminders from the Summit Health Room:**

We've had lots of children coming to school ill in the last couple of months. Please remember:

- If your child is not feeling well, please keep him/her home – don't spread the illness!
- A child with a fever the evening or night before should stay home the next day.
- A child with conjunctivitis (pink-eye) should be on antibiotics for 24 hours before returning to school.
- A child with chicken pox should be fever-free and all lesions should be scabbed over before returning to school.
- When your child is home sick, please leave a message on the attendance line (x500) each day.
- Students have two days for each day of an excused absence to make up missed homework and assignments.
- Students may use [www.schoolnotes.com](http://www.schoolnotes.com) or fellow students as resources to find out about missed homework.

Students who are home ill for three days or more may make a "homework request" to teachers via the office. Please allow 24 hours for this to be completed (or until the end of the following school day).

### **National History Day News**

Congratulations to all who participated in Regional History Day! The judges announced that it was the strongest competition they had seen in years; the projects really were outstanding.

1<sup>st</sup>—3<sup>rd</sup> places were awarded as well as Honorable Mentions in 7 categories.

Here are the results for Summit students:

#### **Historical Paper**

1<sup>st</sup> place: Kelsey Piper: *The Welfare System of the Great Depression: A Tragic Situation and a Triumphant Solution*

#### **Group Exhibit**

3<sup>rd</sup> place: Heather Hilson and Hannah Karpel: *Once Upon a Time*

#### **Individual Performance**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Lara Norgaard: *An Unsung Tragedy: The Internment of German Americans during WWII*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Matt Johnson: *Branch Rickey and Jackie Robinson: A Barrier Broken Down*

#### **Group Performance**

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: Katie Steen and Anna Royer: *The Maid from Merlin's Legend*

#### **Individual Documentary**

Honorable Mention: Hannah Hyde: *The Great Depression: Symbols of Hope*

3<sup>rd</sup> Place: B.K. Kahn: *Woodstock: The Concert that Defined a Generation*

1<sup>st</sup> Place: Arielle Eckstein: *Righteous Gentiles: Those Who Were Sane when the World Went Mad*

#### **Special Awards for Outstanding Projects in Western History:**

Kat Uhler: *The Physical Death of Twenty, but the Mental Death of Hundreds: The Ludlow Massacre*  
Caela "Wolf" Bialek: *Wolves: Villains or Victims: An Examination of the 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup> century wolf extirpation in the United States*

***Winners will be participating at the State competition for History Day on Saturday, April 28 at CU--Boulder.***

### **Fairview Freshman Registration**

Fairview registration/pictures for incoming 9th graders will officially take place on June 8th from 12:00 to 4:00 p.m. As all of Summit's 8th graders will be involved with graduation on that day, we have requested an alternate time for those attending Fairview next year to register. We have been given permission for our 8th graders to register with incoming 10th graders on June 6th from 2:00 to 6:00 p.m.

Information regarding registration will be mailed out to incoming 9th graders on May 15th. If you are planning to attend Fairview next year, save the date!

### **Get involved in welcoming new families to Summit!**

The Community Connections Committee is now planning activities for the summer and beginning of school to welcome new students and their families to Summit. If you'd like to be involved with coordinating a summer social activity, being a mentor family, or helping with the back to school Welcome Party in August, please join us. The committee will meet next on Thursday, April 12th at 12:45 at Summit. Please join us then; if you can't come but would like to be involved, contact Becky Morley at [becky.morley\(at\)summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:becky.morley(at)summitmiddleschool.org).

### **Lost and Found**

Please remember to write your child's name in clothing and personal articles brought to school. We make every effort to return lost items to the appropriate student, but we can't do it without a name!

### **MAKING THE TRANSITION FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL TO HIGH SCHOOL**, presented by Jan Hittelman, Ph.D., founder of Compass House **Thursday, April 26<sup>th</sup>, from 7-8:30 at Summit in the multi-purpose room**

Please join Summit parents in a group discussion and presentation designed JUST FOR YOU!!!!!! This event is open to all Summit families – 6<sup>th</sup> – 8<sup>th</sup> grade.

Topics to include:

- Proactive information on what to expect and anticipate
- Ways to improve protective factors to reduce at-risk behaviors
- Communication techniques with teens
- Brain, development as well as growth and development stages of teens

Free and open to all parents

**Jan S. Hittelman, Ph.D.**, is a licensed psychologist with over twenty years of experience working with adults, children, adolescents, and families in a variety of settings. In addition to clinical practices in California, Colorado, and New York, he has specialized in program development in partnership with school systems, psychiatric hospitals, correctional facilities and the courts, outpatient settings, residential treatment facilities, and private non-profit organizations. He is the founder of Compass House, a non-profit counseling collaborative for teens and their families. Dr. Hittelman authored a monthly newspaper column in the Daily Camera entitled "Surviving the Teenage Years", writes a current monthly column for the Boulder Valley School District high school and middle school newsletters for the Parent Engagement Network and also publishes an online monthly question and answer column for teens for the Rosen Publishing Group in New York.

### **No School Lunch at Summit April 2 and 3**

Please send a lunch with your child on Monday, April 2 and Tuesday, April 3. The district does not have school on those days, but Summit does. Hot water and a microwave will be available, but we ask that you try to avoid microwave-only food as we do get long lines at the microwave on these days.

### **Student Drop-off/Pick-up Reminder**

Please remember that Tantra is the main drop-off, pick-up point for Summit students. The Summit parking lot is for teachers and staff ONLY. Our parking lot monitors set up cones to remind you that you are not to use the parking lot for pick-up and drop-off during the 7:55 – 8:10 a.m. and 3:00 – 3:20 time slots. Only parents volunteering at school or with a student having trouble walking may enter the parking lot during these times. Recently, there have been incidents of parents arguing with our monitors over access to the lot. We ask that you please respect our parking lot monitors who are simply doing the job Summit administration has asked of them – to ensure available parking for our staff, keep the parking lot congestion-free and safer for our students who walk or ride bikes to school.

### **Summit MathCounts Team: State Champs!**

Congratulations to the Summit MathCounts team for their first place finish at the state competition held at the University of Denver on March 17. This is the second consecutive first place finish for the Summit MathCounts team at the state competition. This year's team consisted of Ben Alpert, Alexander Black, Chris Guthrie, and Charles Xu.

Summit had three of the top 10 finishers in the individual competition. Ben Alpert finished 10th overall, Alexander Black finished 6th and Chris Guthrie finished in 2nd place. Other students who qualified to compete at the state level were Sam Berens, Will Conway and Will Kuelthau. With Chris's 2nd place finish he will be traveling to Fort Worth, Texas in May to compete at the national competition.

A very special "thank you" goes out to Ms Silva Chang as the team coach. Ms Chang has done an extraordinary job in preparing our students to perform well in these very challenging math competitions and for providing a very valuable math enrichment program at Summit. As the coach of the winning team, Ms Chang will be accompanying the Colorado team to the national competition in Fort Worth.

Congratulations to all MathCounts participants this year, and best of luck to Chris and Ms Chang at nationals.

### **Grant Support for Summit**

We feel very fortunate this month! In addition to the generous donations that continue to come in for our Tools For Learning campaign (see below), Summit recently received a substantial grant from the Walton Family Foundation. The grant will help us equip our new library with additional books, new furniture, and technology. It will also cover some of the costs of a second technology lab for the school, and for the replacement of some of our older textbooks. We are extremely grateful to the foundation for helping Summit to continue to provide an outstanding education for our children.

### **Thanks for Supporting Summit Students!**

We are entering the home stretch of the 2006-07 Tools For Learning campaign. Thanks to everyone who has contributed to Tools for Learning thus far! We are currently at \$84,645, which means we need just a little over \$15,000 more to reach our goal of raising \$100,000 for the year.

Thanks to the following families and staff for their support of the 2006-2007 Tools for Learning campaign:

#### **Current Summit Families**

*Carol Achatz and Tom Morris*

*Ronald Pak and Doris Hung*

*Linda Fong and Binx Selby*

#### **Summit Alumni**

*Andrea and Claudius Jaeger*

**If you have not made your donation yet, please do so soon.** We are currently close to 50% participation from current Summit families, which gets us only halfway to our goal of 100% participation. **Remember that the Tools For Learning campaign is our way of avoiding fundraisers that directly involve our kids, requiring them to sell things to family, friends, and neighbors. Full participation will tell us that you appreciate this fundraising approach.** Donations of any size are greatly appreciated—it's your participation that is really crucial.

As always, if you need a new pledge card or have any questions or concerns, please contact Sara Steen at [sara@drsteen.com](mailto:sara@drsteen.com) or 303-449-3817. If you want to send your donation directly (without taking any additional steps), you can simply write a check to Supporters of Summit, Inc., and put it in the mail addressed to: Summit Middle School, 4655 Hanover Avenue, Boulder, CO 80305. Thank you!

### **NJHS March News**

*Mrs. Kapsak, Advisor*

**National Junior Honor Society** is collecting new school supplies for very poor schools in Armenia. We need all supplies from those for small children to those for high school students. Collection boxes are in the history classrooms through April 24th. Project chairs are Ani Christianian & Erin Kirton. Please support PROJECT ARMENIA. Ani was at Summit her 6th grade year and then her family took her to California to enroll in an Armenian school for 7th grade. She has returned to Summit for her 8th grade year, and she is a member of NJHS. She has visited some of the schools in need in Armenia. Ani and her family have arranged for the shipment of the supplies we gather to the Armenian schools. Every pencil, notebook and pen counts. Let's make a difference! Thank you.

Heather Hilson and Hannah Karpel are leading a **SOCK DOLLS FOR SUDAN** project. We meet every Wednesday at lunch and they have arranged to have the dolls delivered to a refugee camp this summer. Long socks (not white) are needed.

**JUGGLING CLUB** meets every Wednesday at lunch outside room 2. Project chairs are Will Kuelthau and Tore Hanssen. All are welcome. Bring 3 objects to juggle. Tennis balls are fine.

### **Spanish Class**

*Wendy Blakemore*

In Spanish classes last week, we held some delicious cultural cooking days. Beginning students enjoyed burritos with quite a variety of ingredients to choose from. They improved their skills at ordering food and using courtesies. Level 1 students made Tostadas "Tinga", a specialty from the state of Zacatecas in Mexico. They also made Dulce de Leche cookies, a yummy treat that does not require baking! All students wrote paragraphs about the preparation of the delicacies. We all wish to thank our sensational volunteers who were so helpful in the Beginning classes: Hyeawon Chae (Max Buster's mom), Maggie Yost (Gini's mom), and Carol Achatz (Nicholas' mom).

## **Parent Engagement Network**

HOPE - the depression and suicide awareness event - is April 16 at Monarch High School from 7 - 9 pm.

The next PEN meeting is Thursday, April 12, 8:30 - 11 am, BVSD Ed Center, 6500 Arapahoe Road. Again, the topic is "Parenting Tools for A Fast-Paced Society."

### **Announcements:**

If you know any youth with leadership potential who might be interested in being a part of Youth Opportunities Advisory Board (YOAB), please encourage them to apply. Current 8th-11th grade city of Boulder residents are eligible to apply. No previous leadership experience is required. YOAB members learn a host of valuable skills while they: make funding decisions about proposals for youth programs, advise the City Council and local agencies on youth-related issues, and plan events for youth. Applications are due Wednesday April 11, 2007. If you would like someone to come speak to a group of youth who would like more information about YOAB, please let contact Alice Swett at 303-441-4349 or swetta@bouldercolorado.gov. Applications are on the web at [www.yoab.org](http://www.yoab.org).

Upcoming workshops:

"Raising Sexually Healthy and Responsible Children" - 2-part class

The next series of child sexual abuse prevention classes begins on April 9 from 6:30 - 7:30 p.m., and focuses on the public health model of CSA prevention and its effectiveness, and promoting healthy sexuality. The second class, held on April 16 from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m., builds on the first and teaches skills for responding to children's sexual behavior. Parents and caregivers may attend the first class only, or both classes. Both of these classes will be held in the Columbine Elementary School Cafeteria.

For a complete schedule and more information, visit [www.blueskybridge.org](http://www.blueskybridge.org), or contact Kitty Sargent at Blue Sky Bridge, [ksargent@blueskybridge.org](mailto:ksargent@blueskybridge.org), 303-444-1388 x107. You may also contact Katy Fleming, BVSD Health Education Coordinator, at [katy.fleming@bvsd.org](mailto:katy.fleming@bvsd.org) or 303-618-9246.

### **Fun Opportunities for Your Teens!**

After School Art & Music Classes for teens! September School is offering their After Hour Arts spring classes beginning April 2nd. Classes include: Garage Improv Rock Shop, Graffiti Mural Art, Jewelry & Metalsmithing, Stained Glass, Elements of Fashion, Old School Photography, Discover Your Inner Chef, and more. High school credit and limited scholarships are available. For more information contact Joy Chapman at 303-443-9933 or [joy@SeptemberSchool.org](mailto:joy@SeptemberSchool.org).

## **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: 303-447-5529. 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 on Summit's World Wide Web pages at <http://www.summitmiddleschool.org> and at the school in the wall boxes in the main hallway.

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.

### **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 – 2006-2007 ACADEMIC YEAR**

**Rainer Kunz**, Chairman, 303-448-9333, [r.kunz@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:r.kunz@summitmiddleschool.org)

**David Kopel**, Vice Chair, 303-279-6536, [david@i2i.org](mailto:david@i2i.org)

**Martin Black**, Secretary, 303-554-9441, [martin.black@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:martin.black@summitmiddleschool.org)

**Becky Morley**, Treasurer, 303-440-7811, [becky.morley@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:becky.morley@summitmiddleschool.org)

**Michelle Meyer**, 303-666-0627, [michelle.meyer@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:michelle.meyer@summitmiddleschool.org)

**Paul King**, 303-447-8011, [paul.king@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:paul.king@summitmiddleschool.org)

**Sara Steen**, 303-449-3817, [sara.steen@summitmiddleschool.org](mailto:sara.steen@summitmiddleschool.org)

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