



Summit News

November 16, 2007

Boulder Valley's First Charter School

Volume 24, Number 6

The School Calendar

November	December
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, 19th – Friday, 23rd – NO SCHOOL, Thanksgiving Holiday Monday, 26th, Open Enrollment begins Wednesday, 28th – Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit library 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday, 5th, 7 p.m. Instrumental Music Concert, Multipurpose Room Friday, 7th, –1/2 day School Development Day* Wednesday, 12th, National History Day at Summit Wednesday, 12th – Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit Library December 15th, 1 p.m. Summit Drama class presents a Series of One Act plays at the Dairy Tuesday, 18th, Choir Concert, Boulder HS, 7 p.m. Friday, 21st – First Semester ends. Monday, 24th – Winter Break begins.
January	February
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Monday, 7th, No school, Development Day Tuesday, 8th, school resumes Wednesday, 9th, Board meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit Library Friday, 18th, Open enrollment ends. Monday, 21st, MLK Day, No school Wednesday, 23rd, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit Library Thursday, 24th, Science Fair at Summit 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Wednesday, 6th, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit Library Tuesday, 12th, Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30 – 6:00 p.m.* (L-Z) Wednesday, 13th, Parent/Teacher Conferences 1:30 – 6:00 p.m.* (A-K) Wednesday, 14th, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday, 18th, President's Day – NO SCHOOL Tuesday, 19th, NO SCHOOL Thursday, 21st, Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m., Summit Library
<p>* Conference and ½ Day Development Meetings Note: Summit students will be in class 8:00 – 12:20 p.m.</p>	

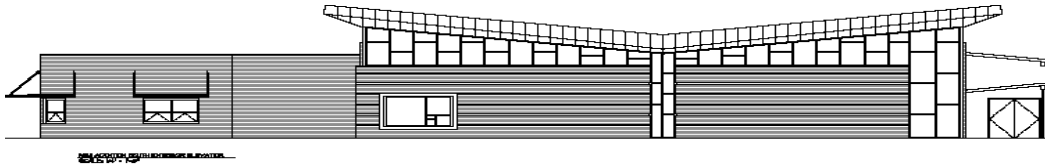
An Overview of Construction Plans for Summit

While Summit administrators, faculty, and parents have created a wonderful learning environment for students, they long for the day when Summit will have a building that comes closer to matching the quality of the education offered within it.

That day is now within sight.

With cooperation between the Boulder Valley School District and our charter school, an agreement was reached that will provide Summit with almost \$7 million in additional funding invested in our educational facilities. The District will provide \$5.5 million for two new science labs, an art room, and a library as well as reconfiguring existing square footage for a tech lab and better space for staff and teachers. Summit will remain a small middle school, and the educational setting for every student will vastly improve. Summit, in return, agreed to raise at least \$1 million from parents and friends to build a freestanding gymnasium. (cont.)

This exciting project will be completed in two phases.



Art room and library viewed from south

Architect: Hutton Architecture Studio
Contractor: Golden Triangle Construction
Project Manager: Dave Compton, BVSD

Phase 1

The first phase of construction, funded by the BVSD bond issue of November 2006, will add a new 4500 sq ft library, 2 new 1100 sq ft science labs, and a new 1100 sq ft art room. We will then use the three “old” classrooms to give homes to teachers who currently must travel between classrooms. Additionally, the former library space will be converted into an additional technology lab and larger work space for teachers and administrators. The current front office space will be reconfigured to provide a more appropriate work space for our registrars and office assistants, provide a more private and larger health room and provide space in the office for parents and students to wait.

Additionally, we will upgrade the telecommunications system, expand and improve our parking area, and provide cooling to the technology labs and some other areas in the existing building. All of these changes will make for much more productive and appealing space for our students, faculty and staff.

Special considerations have gone into the design of the building to make it environmentally friendly, including daylighting through rooftop tubes, use of geothermal heating and cooling and the selection of “healthier” building materials.

We expect the first phase of construction to begin in December 2007 and hope to be completed in the fall of 2008. All interior work in the existing building is planned to be done over the summer. Though the construction phase will of course provide challenges in parking, noise, and distractions, our faculty and staff will continuously work with the construction contractor to reduce the impact on our students as much as possible.

Phase 2

Design work for Phase 2 will begin soon. The second phase of construction will build a gymnasium, locker rooms and bathrooms on the north end of our site (in the area behind the current portables). The new gym will be designed to foster community at Summit. For the first time since our inception, Summit teams will have the opportunity to host home games. The multi-purpose space will allow the school to hold educational events such as History Day and the Science Fair, and will provide a wonderful place for students to congregate and families to get to know each other at Summit social events. We plan to build the gym to “green” environmental standards.

Fundraising for construction has begun. Founding parent Barb Kostanick is the chairwoman of the Capital Campaign. Barb, the Summit Board, and members of the Capital Campaign Committee have been working together over the last six months to plan a strategy for raising this money and to get commitments from donors. Construction of the gym will begin as soon as we have pledges for the money required to build.

We are excited to begin building the “new” Summit for our children.

Come to our Ground Breaking

We invite you to share in the ground-breaking for our new addition on Friday, December 7th at 12 noon. Students will be dismissed at about 12:20 p.m.

David Finell, Principal
303-499-9511
david.finell(at)summitmiddleschool.org

Becky Morley, Chairman, Summit Board
becky.morley(at)summitmiddleschool.org

Counseling Program Notes

High School Open Enrollment

By now, all 8th grade parents should have received two e-mails regarding high school enrollment from the Summit counseling office. One e-mail includes a list of all of the high school information nights and other events for prospective students offered during the open enrollment period in the Boulder Valley School District. The other includes an attachment with Summit's High School Course Placement Recommendation Guidelines, for students and parents to review in planning their student's high school program.

Mrs. Bartley also visited all 8th grade classes on November 13th, and provided hard copies of the information that had been e-mailed to parents. The processes of open enrollment and high school registration, as well as Summit's course placement recommendation guidelines, were discussed.

Students and their parents are highly encouraged to attend the high school information nights at the schools their students may wish to attend. The Boulder High and Fairview High Showcase evening presentations are the week after Thanksgiving break. Students who wish to open enroll to a high school other than their neighborhood high school will need to submit an application during the open enrollment period, from Nov. 26 to January 18. Students who will be attending their neighborhood high school should not submit an open enrollment application, and instead will simply register for courses in February.

Please feel free to call Mrs. Bartley if you have any questions about high school enrollment.

Open Enrollment Begins November 26

If you have a 5th grader (sibling of a current student) who is interested in attending Summit next year, don't forget to fill out an Open Enrollment application! Forms will be available on the BVSD website (www.bvsd.org) beginning Monday, November 26 and must be turned in to the Open Enrollment office no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 18. Siblings of current Summit students are not automatically enrolled here, so please remember this important window to enroll your student. For a list of Summit's Open Enrollment events, go to www.summitmiddleschool.org.

In addition, if you have moved out of the Boulder Valley School District boundaries since the last open enrollment period, you must open enroll your child again. Please call the office if this applies to you!

In case of inclement weather

Since we are approaching the time of year with potentially bad weather, we wanted to remind you of how to know when Summit is closed.

Remember, if BVSD closes its schools, Summit (as a BVSD school) will also be closed!

Closure information will be posted on the BVSD website and conveyed to local radio and television stations by 6:00 a.m. School closings will be broadcast on television channels 2, 4, 7, 8, 9. Fox 31 News, as well as the following radio stations: KGNU (88.5 FM), ALICE (105.9 FM), KTCL (93.3 FM), KISS (95.7 FM), KBCO (97.3 FM), KOSI (101.1 FM), FOX (103.5 FM), KOOL (105.1 FM), KBPI (106.7 FM), KHOW (630 AM), KOA (850 AM), KRCN (1060 AM), KBNO (1280 AM).

If the weather is bad and school is not closed, please remember to allow extra time for getting to school so that students will be on time.

Come See the Artists of Summit!!!

On Wednesday, December 5th we will be having an art show featuring a collection of artwork from the first 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 see and listen to the talented and creative Summit community.

Parent Engagement Network National Newsletter

The following newsletter links include information on issues related to the wellness, health, and safety of our students.

Links to PDFs of the four issues that have gone out so far are below:

August 2007:

<http://www.bvsd.org/pdfs/parentCorpsNews-Aug07.pdf>

September 2007:

<http://www.bvsd.org/pdfs/parentCorpsNews-Sept07.pdf>

October 2007:

<http://www.bvsd.org/pdfs/parentCorpsNews-Oct07.pdf>

November 2007:

<http://www.bvsd.org/pdfs/parentCorpsNews-Nov07.pdf>

Thank you!

Thanks to the Newhouse family for their donation of a wonderful chair for our teacher lunchroom.

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 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

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 – 2007-2008 ACADEMIC YEAR

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