



October Newsletter

Message from the Principal

Summit Families,

Welcome to October! We've had an amazing start to the school year! Students were administered the aReading and aMath assessments through FastBridge. Our staff engaged in professional learning throughout the day on September 30th. We are working hard to continue to build capacity by sharing ideas and visiting classrooms.

Members of our district's school board visited Summit in September! We were able to get into various classrooms and connect with several staff and students throughout that morning! Summit received tons of positive feedback from all those involved in the visit!

We are so proud of our students and staff! We appreciate your continued support as families!

Kaniesha Pettaway, Principal



Message from School Nurse

When to keep your student home from school

There are times when children are too ill to come to school, both for their own safety and that of others around them. Please follow these general guidelines when deciding when your child should stay home:

- A temperature of 100 degrees or more in the past 24 hours (without the use of fever-reducing medicine)
- Vomiting or diarrhea in the past 24 hours
- A bacterial infection (strep throat, impetigo, etc.) that has not been treated with antibiotics for a full 24 hours
- Severe cough or cold
- Unexplained rash or skin eruptions
- A communicable disease (chicken pox, etc.) that has not received written authorization from your doctor for readmission to class
- An ailment that would impair your child's learning (severe stomach pain, ear infections, etc.)

6th Grade Parents: Immunization Requirements for 7th Graders

State of Iowa law requires incoming 7th graders to have one of the following in order to come to school on the first day of 7th grade:

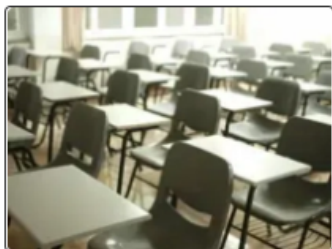
- Tdap & Meningococcal Vaccine
- Religious Exemption (completed and signed by parent)
- Medical Exemption (completed and signed by medical provider)

Please reach out to Nurse Nicki Meston if you have any questions, need a copy of your student's immunization record or need a medical or religious exemption form.

Reminders & Updates

Cellphones and Other Electronic Devices:

If cellphones and/or electronic devices are brought to school, students are responsible for these items. This includes cellphones, watches, ear buds, etc. The school is not responsible for loss or damage to personal items. Electronics should **NOT** be used throughout the school day, including during class, lunch, recess, and in restrooms. We want to ensure every student has access to quality instruction with limited distractions. Inappropriate use of electronics may result in a removal.



Student Absences

If your child will be absent, arriving late or needs to leave early due to an appointment or other reasons, please report using Infinite Campus. The Absence Request tool in the Infinite Campus Parent Portal allows you to report your student's absence online with just a few clicks. Follow these simple steps:

1. Log in to your [Infinite Campus Parent](#) Portal account, either by computer or Parent Portal App on your mobile device.
2. Select your child's profile.
3. Navigate to the Absence Request section.
4. Fill in the required information, including the date and reason for the absence.
5. Submit your request.

You may also report an absence by calling 515-986-0941. This line is available 24 hours to leave a message. You may also send an email to asoda@johnston.k12.ia.us

If your student is at school and needs to leave for any reason, it needs to be facilitated through the nurse or office. In addition, if you are picking up your child, you must enter the building to sign them out. We appreciate your assistance!

Pick-Up & Drop-Off Guidelines

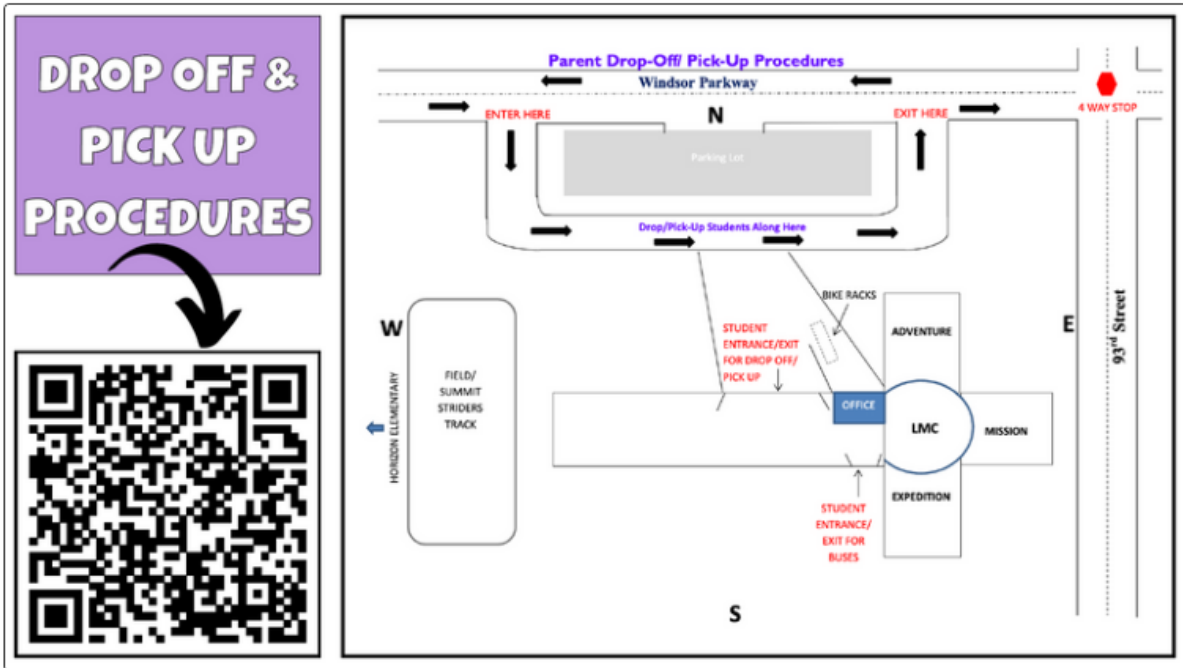
Here is some guidance on how to help make pick-up and drop-off traffic flow smoothly:

1. Staff will be on duty at the front of the building from 7:30 - 7:40 AM for arrivals.
2. Staff will be on duty from 2:50 - 3:00 PM for dismissal.
3. Pull your vehicle all the way up behind the car in front of you when in the carpool lane for pick-up & drop-off. If you are first in line, drive past the entrance and stop at the second light pole.
4. Parking lot drop-offs are not permitted for safety reasons.

Important Reminders:

An ordinance with the city of Johnston states that drivers are not allowed to block a crosswalk under any circumstance. When a crosswalk is blocked, Crossing Guards are not allowed to assist students across the street until the crosswalk is clear. It can also create issues for neighborhood walkers, joggers and cyclists.

Thank you for your cooperation and support as we work together to keep our students safe!



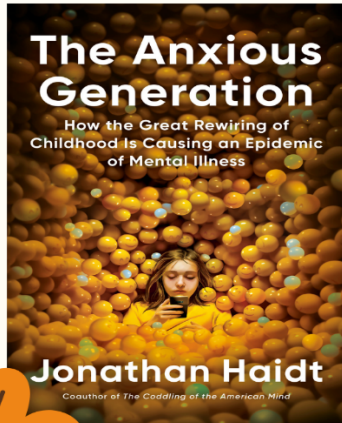
Counselors' Corner

COUNSELOR CORNER

OCTOBER 2024

Monthly Book Recommendation:

A “must read” and bestseller: a look into how cell phones, technology, and social media have impacted our youth as it pertains to mental health. Haidt offers realistic advice and plans for parents and educators on how to best support our youth.



SMS School Counseling Website:

Scan the QR Code below to...

- Meet Summit’s school counseling team.
- Follow along with Dragon Time lessons.
- Discover clubs offered at SMS.
- Find additional resources!



Upcoming Lessons

- Mindsets and Behaviors
- Transitions/Worries
- Above and Beyond Awards
- Identifying Resources

Student Leadership Team

The Student Leadership Team for the 24-25 school year has been chosen. The selection process took place in September which included a student application and staff recommendation form. These students were selected for their ability to uphold our CHAMPS expectations and for being an exemplary leader within their grade level.

At a recent ceremony and introduction breakfast, we welcomed a group of 15 members in the 6th grade and 30 in 7th grade. These students will meet twice a month to coordinate schoolwide community building events. Some examples include student vs staff sporting events and schoolwide social events. We look forward to seeing their ideas come to fruition!



News from the PTO

Thanks to everyone who came to our first Dine to Donate at Texas Roadhouse. As a PTO we made \$350 to go towards supporting our amazing staff and students!!

There will be **NO October PTO Meeting** due to scheduling conflicts.

We will be starting our UNFundraiser at the end of October and more information to come!

Upcoming Dates

Monday, October 14

No School, Fall Break

School Board Meeting, District Office at 6 pm

Wednesday, October 16

Picture Retake Day

Friday, October 25

End of First Quarter

Monday, October 28

No School, Staff Professional Development

School Board Meeting, District Office at 6 pm

| Month | Day | Event |
|-----------|-------|--------------------------------|
| August | 14-15 | Summer Break |
| August | 19-20 | Back to School |
| August | 26-27 | Fall Break |
| September | 16-17 | Picture Retake Day |
| October | 14 | Fall Break |
| October | 16 | Picture Retake Day |
| October | 25 | End of First Quarter |
| October | 28 | Staff Professional Development |
| November | 11-12 | Thanksgiving Break |
| December | 16-17 | Winter Break |
| December | 23-24 | Winter Break |
| December | 31 | Winter Break |
| January | 1-2 | Winter Break |
| January | 9-10 | Winter Break |
| January | 16-17 | Winter Break |
| January | 23-24 | Winter Break |
| January | 30-31 | Winter Break |
| February | 6-7 | Winter Break |
| February | 13-14 | Winter Break |
| February | 20-21 | Winter Break |
| February | 27-28 | Winter Break |
| March | 6-7 | Winter Break |
| March | 13-14 | Winter Break |
| March | 20-21 | Winter Break |
| March | 27-28 | Winter Break |
| April | 4-5 | Winter Break |
| April | 11-12 | Winter Break |
| April | 18-19 | Winter Break |
| April | 25-26 | Winter Break |
| May | 2-3 | Winter Break |
| May | 9-10 | Winter Break |
| May | 16-17 | Winter Break |
| May | 23-24 | Winter Break |
| May | 30-31 | Winter Break |
| June | 6-7 | Winter Break |
| June | 13-14 | Winter Break |
| June | 20-21 | Winter Break |
| June | 27-28 | Winter Break |