

SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

September 2023

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Summit Families,

It has been an amazing start to the school year! Students and staff have come back energized! As a building, we implemented the CHAMPS+T framework. We are working diligently to ensure that everyone feels welcomed at Summit:

Conversation

Help

Activity

Movement

Participation

Success

Technology



We appreciate your support in our efforts!

Emergency Drills:

Students and staff will participate in emergency drills starting in September. In an emergency situation, we know that preparation is important! Please let us know if you have any concerns or questions.

MAP TESTING

Students will be taking the MAP assessment on **Tuesday, September 19th & Thursday, September 21**. Testing will begin promptly at **8:00 AM**. Please make sure student iPads are charged!



Makeups will be provided throughout the following week in case your student needs to be out on those specific dates.

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

September 4th

NO SCHOOL - Labor Day

September 5th

PTO Meeting- 7:00 PM

September 19th

MAP Testing: 6th & 7th Grade ELA

September 21st

MAP Testing: 6th & 7th Grade Math

September 25th

NO SCHOOL - Staff Development



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 7:25 AM - 7:45 AM for arrivals.
- 2. Staff will also be on duty from 2:50 PM- 3:00 PM for dismissal.
- 3. When in the carpool lane for pick-up & drop-off please pull your vehicle all the way up behind the car in front of you. If you are first in line, please drive past the entrance and stop at the second light pole.
- 4. Parking lot drop-offs are not permitted for safety reasons. Please be sure to have an adult escort students to the front door if you prefer to use the parking lot.

IMPORTANT REMINDER:

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

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

SUMMIT THERAPY DOGS

MEET WINNIE

Winnie is Mrs. Larson's four year old golden retriever. She stays primarily in Mrs. Larson's room and the Voyage community, where she helps the students regulate their emotions and boosts morale for everyone. According to Mrs. Larson, the difference Winnie makes in both the students' and fellow teachers' lives has been one of the coolest experiences as a teacher. Although Winnie

is home with her mom while on maternity leave, she will be eager to meet all the new students and see her old friends in November.



MEET WRANGLER & WRIGLEY

Wrangler and Wrigley are two of Summit's Therapy Dogs that continue to make a positive impact on students and staff at Summit Middle School. Students are welcomed each morning with their wagging tails and are ready to make their day better. Wrigley has joined many classrooms helping promote a positive learning environment and Wrangler is a frequent request to join our school counselors. Loving and loveable, Wrangler and Wrigley are friendly companions and good listeners who make no judgments.



MEET DEX

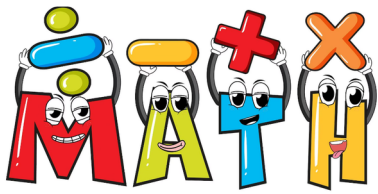
Dex is one of the therapy dogs at school. He is a red fox lab. He will be 2 years old in October, and he is the only boy dog that is in the building. He loves to help kids while they are in class. His owner, Michelle Guerdet, loves taking him for walks and volunteering at On With Life. His favorite food is hot dogs and turkey deli meat. He only gets these on special occasions. Dex is looking forward to the 2023-2024 school year.



Therapy Dog Opt Out.pdf

[Download](#)

386.5 KB



Come join the MATHCOUNTS CLUB!!!

The MATHCOUNTS Foundation is a non-profit organization that reaches students in grades 6-8 in all US states and territories with 3 extracurricular math programs. More than a quarter million students participate in MATHCOUNTS programs or use their

resources each year. At Summit, students meet to solve problems and build problem solving skills. They will meet after school every-other week, on Mondays, starting the first week of October in Ms. Lewis's room in Team Mission. Our first meeting is Oct. 2.

In January, students will begin meeting every week on Monday's after school to get ready for 4 levels of competition. This is open to any student who enjoys problem solving with others in a competitive environment. Our school competition will be in January, a local competition in February, state in March and then the National Competition.

The coaches are Mr. Steve Skinner and Ms. Linda Lewis. Anyone is welcome to join and there are links on the Activities and Clubs Moodle page under MATHCOUNTS.

COUNSELOR'S CORNER

FROM OUR TEAM OF SCHOOL COUNSELORS:



School Counseling

NEWSLETTER

Meet Your School Counselors:

All 6th and 7th grade students have access to their school counselor through individual meetings, small groups, and Dragon Time lessons. Student roster assignments are divided alphabetically by last name. Please see your student's assigned school counselor below.

September Lesson Focus:

Introduction to School Counselors
Mindset



Mrs. Heston
(A-G)



Miss De Moss
(H-N)



Mrs. Brock
(O-Z)

How to Contact Us:

Students can refer themselves to their school counselor by scanning the QR code to the right and completing the Student Referral Form.

Families can reach school counselors through a phone call or email:

lauren.gallo-heston@johnston.k12.ia.us
brianna.demoss@johnston.k12.ia.us
shannon.brock@johnston.k12.ia.us





SUMMIT GARDEN CLUB

The Summit Middle School Garden Club has donated over 550 pounds of produce this gardening season to the Johnston Partnership!

All 6th and 7th graders are welcome to be a part of this group aimed at making a difference in our community, building relationships with peers, and learning gardening basics. We meet most Thursdays from 2:45-3:30. Students must be able to get home by walking or being picked up by a grown up; there is no district transport provided. If you have questions, please email allison.barlow@johnston.k12.ia.us.

Please follow along on our facebook page here: [Summit Middle School Garden Club Facebook Page](#)

STUDENT ABSENCES VIA INFINITE CAMPUS

If your child will be absent or needs to leave early or arrive late due to an appointment or another reason, please follow the attached steps showing you how to send us the absence request through Infinite Campus. This helps limit the number of emails and phone calls to the attendance person and allows us to get the attendance added correctly and more efficiently.

Infinite Campus portal:

https://johnstonia.infinitecampus.org/campus/portal/johnston.jsp?fbclid=IwAR1AAjsZATC2wabpqOeJXlryXqxVC_pXdaNXAOebk1y88-LqgnXPbUuGk0

HOMEcoming WEEK

Week of September 18-22 is homecoming week! Here are the dress-up days for that week:

Monday: Swap Day (Students will dress like teachers and teachers will dress like students)

Tuesday: Comfy Clothes Day (School appropriate comfy clothes, no blankets or stuffed animals)

Wednesday: Twin Day (Find a friend and dress alike)

Thursday: Tropical Day (Dress like you're ready for a tropical vacation, school appropriate attire)

Friday: Spirit Day (Purple & Gold all the way!)



POSITIVE BEHAVIOR REFERRAL

At Summit we love to celebrate our students and all their great achievements.



This year your student will have opportunities to receive a positive behavior referral. More information will be shared about this initiative.

SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

9500 Windsor Parkway
Johnston, IA 50131

Office: 515-986-0318

Fax: 515-986-0952

Attendance: 515-986-0941

Nurse: 515-986-0931



SUMMIT MIDDLE SCHOOL

