



Summit Speaks

August / September 2021

A Message to Students and Parents, from Dr. St. John

Welcome back to school, Falcons! I am excited about the new year—the opportunities, the challenges, and most of all, the approximately 850 smiling faces each day. We are excited our entire staff will be implementing the theme of S.O.A.R. with students again this year. S.O.A.R. stands for safe, organized, accountable, and respectful. All staff will be teaching, clarifying, modeling, and reinforcing what it means to S.O.A.R. in all areas of the school environment. In simplest form, this effort will be a profound emphasis on our shared expectations for behavior.

As we look at the start of another school year, I would like to remind students to find a place to get connected at Summit. We know that a student who is involved in school feels more ownership in his or her education. This leads to greater achievement and satisfaction in the school experience. Summit offers a variety of academic and athletic activities that assist students in the development of personal growth. Fall activities open to all students include student council, yearbook, spell bowl, and cross country. Football and volleyball are available to 7th and 8th grade students. There are a variety of other types of activities available, and I direct you to our [website](#) and school office for information.

Finally, due to the release of [SACS' Return to Classroom Plan](#), below are some details we'd like to share as we prepare to launch the 2021-2022 school year:

- The first day of school will be Wednesday August 11, and it will be an 8 Period Day. Thus, students will first report to their G1 class. Thursday August 12 will be a Green Day, and Friday August 13 will be a White Day. For each of these block days, students will first report to their Advisory class.
- Students arriving to school via SACS bus transportation will be released from busses at 7:25AM to enter the building at Doors 4, 5 and 6. Students arriving to school via any other mode of transport may enter the building beginning at 7:15AM at Door 11. [Click here](#) for Summit's carpool drop-off/pick-up procedures.
- Students who use SACS bus transportation are expected to bring and wear a cloth face covering at all times when riding on a bus (per federal order).
- Once in the building, all students must report to their first class as soon as possible. An optional grab n' go breakfast will be available through the café line, and students are expected to consume it in their first class. There is to be no congregating in any area before school, during passing periods, or after school (to the greatest extent practicable).
- Summit will permit students to carry book bags to classrooms again this year.
- Summit's Back to School Night will be held in-person this year. This is a 'parent-only' event on Thursday August 12th beginning at 6:30PM. Please enter through Door 11. [Click here](#) for more information.

Thank you for your continued partnership. Let's make it a great year...

Go Falcons!

Attendance Reporting Procedures

Summit Middle School is vigilant in accounting for student attendance. It is the parent's responsibility to call the school attendance line if your student is going to be absent or will be arriving late to school.

If the student is not in school and the parent has NOT reported the absence, the attendance secretary will make every attempt to notify the parent using the following procedures:

- 1.) Contact the parent(s) at home, work, and/or by cell phone.
- 2.) If the school is unable to contact a parent, the emergency contacts will be called.
- 3.) The school administrators and the SACS Director of Student Learning will be notified of any students whose parents and emergency contacts were unable to be reached.

It is imperative that parents provide the school with current contact information including up-to-date phone numbers and current information for your designated emergency contacts. By working together, we can keep our students safe.

The 24 hour attendance line number is 260-431-2505.

Absences should be called in by 8:00am.

Medical Needs for All Students - A note from Nurse Lund

COVID-19

Please do not send your child to school if they have any symptoms that cannot be explained. Your child will be sent home if they exhibit or complain of any Covid-19 symptoms.

Please provide accurate contact information and emergency phone numbers. To make any changes to these contacts in PowerSchool, contact the school office at 260-431-2501.

Immunizations

Proof of all required immunizations must be provided to the school nurse by 08/11/21. If you need to complete a Religious Objection form, you may request one from the school.

Medications

Medications may be dropped off at the school. All medications must have a signed consent on file. All controlled medications must be counted by the parent and the number indicated on the bottle or on the medication consent form.

Allergy / Care Plans / Self-Carry

Special forms (asthma care plan, allergy care plan, self-carry) must be provided for all students. Forms can be sent home with your student. Some forms are available on the SACS website.

Back-to-School Night

Summit's Back-to-School Night will be held on Thursday, August 12th, at 6:00pm. This is for parents only, and will allow you the opportunity to meet with your child's Team teacher. Please check your child's schedule in PowerSchool to learn which Team they are on, and see the schedule below:

Tigers—Meet in Cafetorium

Dragons—Meet in Band Room

Frogs—Meet in B126/B127

Bears—Meet in Media Center

Gators—Meet in B119/B120

Sharks—Meet in Choir Room

News from the Cafeteria

The Summit Cafe welcomes all students back to the building for the 2021-2022 school year!

We are excited to announce that breakfast and lunch will once again be free for the school year. The free portion includes one main entree, fruit, vegetables, and a milk. Additional entrees and a la carte items will be available for the students to purchase if they have funds in their lunch account. Deposits can be made via the Titan portal or dropped off in the office.

Please have your students memorize their student ID number prior to the first day of school. They will need to enter it upon "checking out" with their meal. If they are prepared with their number, we will be able to move the lunch line along in a more efficient manner.

Our goal in the Summit Cafe is to create a warm, welcoming environment where we serve the best quality food for your student.



Communicating with Summit Faculty and Staff Members

The quickest and easiest way for parents to communicate with staff members is to use e-mail. The address for each staff member is typically the first initial of their first name followed by their last name attached to "@sacs.k12.in.us"

Ex: jstjohn@sacs.k12.in.us

A staff directory is available on the Summit Website. We welcome new staff members this year. They are ...

Grace Eichelberger—6th Grade Social Studies/Skills (Dragon Team)

Natasha Gabet—8th Grade Math (Gator Team)

Jordan Leffler - 6th Grade Science/Math, Essential Skills (Tiger Team)

Marie LeMay—French (Bear Team)

Joy Matthews - Skills for Adolescence (Gator Team)

Megan McGehee—6th Grade Language Arts (Tiger Team)

Sara Mroczkowski—6th Grade Reading, Lang. Arts & Essential Skills

Jennifer Rolfsen—Paraprofessional

Things to Know About Summit's Advisory Classes



At Summit, students begin their block days with 20 minutes of advisory time where they check in with one teacher regularly. There is a school-wide monthly theme as well as the grade level defined topics for each month of the school year. Our advisory themes are also aligned with SACS' Portrait of a Graduate ideas as well. Summit's advisory program aims to encourage students to SOAR as they build relationships, connect to the school community and feel adult support as they develop personally, socially and academically. For August, all Falcons will be spending time getting to know their advisory teacher and classmates. As they introduce themselves, students will review PBIS expectations and ALICE safety protocols in advisory this month. Sixth grade students will focus primarily on getting settled into Summit. Seventh grade classes will start off the school year by reviewing experiences and lessons learned from last year as they plan out their success route for this year. Finally, eighth graders will enter their final year of advisory at Summit by discussing their new role as leaders for the building. The Summit advisory program aims to be a wealth of support for students and teachers throughout the 2021-2022 school year.

Athletic Passes

Athletic passes may be purchased in the office. A card contains 10 punches and the cost is \$35.00. If you prefer to pay at the door the admission price is \$4.00 for all athletic events.

Families and siblings may use the athletic pass and they do not expire. They may be used multiple years if you have leftover punches at the end of the school year. If you have any questions in regard to the passes please call the office at 431-2501.

[Important Contact Information for Summit Middle School](#)

Principal - Dr. Joshua St. John 260-431-2501
jstjohn@sacs.k12.in.us

Asst. Principal - Mr. Randy Pursley 260-431-2501
rpursley@sacs.k12.in.us

Dean of Students - Mr. Jason Cordes 260-431-2501
jcordes@sacs.k12.in.us

Secretary to the Principals - Ms. Tara McArdle 260-431-2501
tmcardle@sacs.k12.in.us

Secretary - Attendance/Athletic/Discipline - Mrs. Linda Middleton 260-431-2502
lmiddleton@sacs.k12.in.us

Treasurer - Mrs. Ann Chivers 260-431-2506
achivers@sacs.k12.in.us

What you need to know about eLearning Flex Days for 2021-2022

For the coming 2021-2022 school year, SACS has been approved for all students in grades 6-12 at Homestead, Summit, and Woodside to experience eLearning Flex Days.

During the November and March FLEX days, all students in grades 6-12 will be able to log-on from home beginning at 7:10am to begin school work, and teachers will be available for office hours/contact time from noon to 3:00pm. All student work will be available via the district's learning management system (Canvas) and will be created to maintain momentum in the classroom by being designed as a meaningful continuation of activities already in progress in the traditional classroom.

Please know that the school will be open and buses will run on FLEX days if students/parents decide that is the best option for their family. Lunch will be available. After school activities and practices will be held on campus but will begin no sooner than 3:00 PM.

We look forward to our continued growth in creating a blended learning environment and developing 21st century learners.

The eLearning/Flex Days are:

Tuesday, September 21, 2021

Wednesday, November 3, 2021

Friday, March 11, 2022



World Language Course Placement



Attention families of 6th grade students: Summit offers courses in three world languages: French, Latin, and Spanish. This elective class experience begins in seventh grade and continues into eighth grade. These courses provide the opportunity for high school credit and offer a rigorous academic experience with nightly homework. These courses may be more demanding than other electives. Because academic success in 6th grade is our best indicator for success in world language courses, 6th grade G.P.A. (grade point average) at the end of the first semester is used to determine placement if more requests are received than seats available. The scheduling process for the school year will begin in February. Please know that a student who does not take a world language in middle school may start this experience in high school.

For Middle School Students Attending Events at Homestead High School...

Middle school students who wish to attend Homestead athletic events should plan to sit in the bleachers to watch the event. Students who are not sitting in the bleachers will be asked to leave. Please do not bring frisbees, footballs, baseballs, or any other object that is not needed to watch the event.

All students should S.O.A.R. and remember what it means to be respectful at a sporting event. During halftime of HHS Spartan home football games, students should be respectful by remaining quiet in the bleachers while the HHS Marching Band is performing. The Band's performance is a highlight of the event for all spectators. Please discuss with your students how important it is to be respectful by not distracting others and remaining quiet during this time.

Summit Middle School

June 2021

2021-2022 Calendar

August 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

September 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21*	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30		

October 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

November 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
	1	2	3*	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30				

December 2021						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	

January 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

February 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28					







March 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
		1	2	3	4	5
6	7	8	9	10	11*	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30	31		

April 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30

May 2022						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Schedule of Classes

- 8 Period Day: **G1**, W1, **G2**, W2, **G3**, W3, **G4**, W4
- Green Day: Advisory, **G1**, **G2**, **G3**, **G4**
- White Day: Advisory, W1, W2, W3, W4
 - If an eLearning Day is held due to a school cancellation, then the schedule will not change (i.e. A Green Day is a Green Day).
 - eLearning (Flex) Days(*): 9/21/21, 11/3/21, 3/11/22

	8 Period Day		Parent Teacher Conferences (no school for students)
	Green Day		Teacher Day (no school for students)
	White Day		No School

Semester 1 – 8/11/21 – 12/17/21
 Semester 2 – 1/04/22 – 5/26/22
 Quarter 1 – 8/11/21 – 10/08/21

Rotations
 Quarter 2 – 10/11/21 – 12/17/21
 Quarter 3 – 1/04/22 – 3/11/22
 Quarter 4 – 3/14/22 – 5/26/22

1st wks – 8/11/21 – 9/22/21
 2nd wks – 9/23/21 – 11/06/21
 3rd wks – 11/08/21 – 12/17/21

4th wks – 1/04/22 – 2/18/22
 5th wks – 2/22/22 – 3/31/22
 6th wks – 4/11/22 – 5/26/22

SMS: Drop-off and Pick-up Procedures

The Summit parking lot has lines that are designed to promote safety, efficiency, and reduce traffic on Homestead Road.

Follow the Student Drop off arrow.



Choose a lane and pull forward.



Be courteous and merge to one lane.



Guidelines once you reach curb:

1. "Fill the gap," meaning pull forward on the curb until traffic is stopped.
2. Once stopped, student(s) exit, walk the curb, and enter at Door 11 (opens at 7:15AM).
3. Watch for staff crossing at crosswalks.
4. No drop/pick-up in the parking lot – use the curb for safety.
5. Students are to report to Advisory ASAP. No congregating.

Door 11 is unlocked for students @ 7:15AM. Students waiting should practice physical distancing whenever possible while following expectations for face coverings.

SMS ADVISORY PROGRAM CALENDAR

At Summit, students begin their block days with 20 minutes of advisory time where they check in with one teacher regularly. Below are the defined school-wide monthly themes as well as the grade level defined topics for each month of the school year. Our advisory themes are also aligned with SACS Portrait of a Graduate ideas. Summit's advisory program aims to encourage students to SOAR as they build relationships, connect to the school community and feel adult support as they develop personally, socially and academically.

August: Welcome (PBIS Expectations & ALICE Review)

6. Summit: Block Schedule Explanation, School Map, Introduction to Lockers, Build Connections
7. Experiences: Review expectations & what they've learned so far in MS, Setting Academic Goals
8. Leaders: Letters to Incoming 6th Graders, Maturity Challenge, Personal Strengths, Leadership Qualities

September: Using Organization & Accountability to be Better Critical Thinkers (NWEA Goal Setting)

6. School Work: Learning Styles, Study Skills, Task Management
7. Preparation: Listening Skills, Organizational Skills, Time Management
8. Motivation: Personal Profile, Study Skills, Decision Making, Time Management

* National College Colors Day: Friday, September 3, 2021

October: Collaborators through Responsibility & Relationships (Bullying Prevention; Red Ribbon)

6. Personal Responsibility: Hygiene, Self-Care, Peer Pressure
7. Social Responsibility: Qualities of a Friend, Peer Mediation, Giving a Point of Notice
8. Young Adult Responsibility: Safe Survey, Relationship Boundaries, Substance Abuse Prevention

* Red Ribbon Week: October 25-29, 2021

November: Resilient Problem Solvers - Looking into the Future (Indiana Career Explorer)

6. Career Interests: ICE Career Interest Checklist, Possible Careers, 6th Grade Graduation Promise
7. Career Exploration: ICE My Skills Assessment, Research Career Options & Necessary Education
8. Career Planning: ICE Interest Inventory Assessment, ICE 4-year graduation plans for HS classes

December: Mindfulness (PBIS Resiliency Team's "The Brain" PPT)

6. Mindfulness Introduction: Meaning to Mindfulness, Intro to Variety of Exercises, Body Scans
7. Personal Exercises: Breathing Techniques, Teach Others, How the Brain is Affected by Mindfulness
8. Calming Techniques: Stress Reduction Ideas, Lessons Learned, Discuss Setting Time Aside for Self

January: Reset, Restart (Motivation & Why Try? Lessons)

6. Choices: Appropriate Behavior, Reacting vs. Responding, Defense Mechanisms
7. Decisions: Problem Solving, Stress Management, Motivation Formula
8. Consequences: Motivation, Desire/Time/Effort, Lift the Weight, Get Plugged In

February: Communicating Kindness (Thank-You Notes; Random Acts of Kindness Week)

6. Living with Kindness: Assertiveness, Self-Care, Compassion
7. Helping with Kindness: Self-Discipline, Respect, Responsibility
8. Learning from Kindness: Caring, Integrity, Gratitude

* Random Acts of Kindness Week: February 14-18, 2022

March: Be Your Best (Personal Pride)

6. Personal Values: Standards, Beliefs, Defining Yourself
7. Self-Esteem: Definition, How to Gauge, What Affects It, How to Protect It
8. Health & Wellness: Exercise, Diet, Self-Care, How to Be Healthy

* Dress Your Best Day: Friday, March 18, 2022

April: Creative Thinkers: Reflections on My Career Development (Student Led Conferences)

6. Lessons Learned: Personal Interests/Abilities, Career Interests, School Performance
7. My Choices: How Work Performance Affects Grades & Career Options
8. Transitioning to High School: Reflection of MS Lessons Learned; Planning for HS/Career

* C3 Survey for HHS: Day: Thursday, May 19, 2022

May: Connectedness - Citizens in Our Community (Team Community Service Projects)

6. Bonds at Summit Middle School: Fall to Summer Growth, Socially/Emotionally/Physically
7. Community Involvement: Now & Future Plans, Participants Involved, How to Join
8. High School Transition: Next Steps, Review Freshman Schedule & Routine, SMS Graduation