October 13, 2022

Dear South Summit Family,

As we approach the end of the first quarter I wanted to thank you for a great first term. There are good things to be proud of happening throughout the District.

School District
- The softball field is progressing quickly. The dugouts are in and turf has just been laid. It will be ready for the girls softball team very soon. If you haven’t seen it yet, drive by and check it out. It’s located at approximately 600 East Gristmill Road in Kamas.
- Community Nursing Services (CNS) is offering free flu shots to our community again this year. For every eligible flu shot given, they donate $2 back to our schools. If you’d like to take advantage of this opportunity to get your vaccination and give back to the schools, visit any of the following flu shot clinics:
  - Tonight, October 13th from 4-7 pm at SSHS and SSMS
  - Monday, October 17th from 5-8 pm at SSES
- Please note that beginning 2nd quarter we are launching a new attendance alert system for the Kamas schools. If you need to excuse your child from school you’ll need to call the school office before the times listed below, otherwise you will get a notification that your child is tardy or absent. As a reminder, this is a new system and there may be some kinks that we need to work out as we roll it out. Please have patience as we move through this process and kindly inform the office if there is an issue with your notifications.
  - SSHS and SSMS excused absences need to be called in before 2:30 p.m.
  - SSES absences need to be excused before 9:30 a.m.

South Summit High School
The Utah State Board of Education collects data from schools and gives them a letter grade each year. The 2021-2022 grades have just come out and SSHS was given a ‘B’. They missed getting an ‘A’ by less than one percentage point. This is great progress coming back from the losses incurred during the pandemic. A major focus for the high school this year will be to earn
that point and bring the school into the ‘A’ grade territory. Recently released ACT reports show the state average is down from the previous year, but SSHS showed a .9 increase, which is very positive.

**South Summit Middle**
SSMS has been focused on developing and implementing a Positive Behavioral Interventions and Supports (PBIS) plan school-wide. They have a PBIS committee that meets often to discuss behaviors and plan for solutions to those behaviors. This focus on providing the behavior intervention supports is linked to higher student engagement and achievement.

**South Summit Elementary School**
- Academic support and behavior support are a focus this year. It’s hard to believe, but this year’s fourth graders were in first grade when the pandemic first hit. Many of them require extra support, which is why a decision was made last spring to provide more assistance to this grade. Adding an extra fourth grade teacher has brought down the class size to facilitate more intentional instruction and to minimize behavior concerns.

- Our kinder classes are large this year because there are only four classes. With the kindergarten classes at 24 students each, para educator help has been allocated for each kindergarten teacher. They each have a para educator to assist them from 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. each day. The kinder students then have specialists from 2:00 to 3:00 each day.

**Silver Summit Elementary School**
- A big congrats to Ms. Burnham who was recognized as an Outstanding Elementary Educator at the Utah Science Teachers Association last week. Way to go, Cyndee!

- Additionally, one of the school goals has been to implement math journals to support their main goal of "Learning that Sticks". Each student has a math journal and the teachers are implementing at least one math journal activity per week, often more. They have found that the journals are truly helping students get learning that sticks.

- Another positive accomplishment is that by working and brainstorming together (students, staff and parents), the school has drastically improved the nightmare that was parent pick up. It now takes seven minutes from beginning to end with a creative system in place.

**Silver Summit Academy**
- Silver Summit is happy to report that their state reported their letter grade as an ‘A’.
- Other incredible accomplishments include:
  - Lowest ACT score this year is a 27
  - Average AP pass rate of 73%
  - Student who is ranked 24th in the nation for figure skating
  - Student just accepted to Michigan State
Finally, a reminder that next week is the end of the quarter and there is **no school** Wednesday-Friday (Oct. 19th-21st) for Fall Break.

Respectfully,

Greg Maughan  
Superintendent of Schools  
South Summit School District