



Shawnee Mission School District Black Student Unions

1ST ANNUAL BSU SUMMIT

K-STATE OLATHE
TUESDAY, MARCH 28, 2023

2023 THEME
**EMPOWERING YOUTH
TO USE THEIR VOICE**

About The BSU Summit

The event brings together student leaders from middle and high school Black Student Unions in the Shawnee Mission School District (SMSD). The Summit will empower and uplift students through advocacy and representation, provide resources and support for academic and professional success, and promote health and wellness. The event provides breakout sessions that will allow the students to gain knowledge about various topics, network with each other and professionals and leave the event feeling more informed and empowered to use their voice for making positive changes in our community.

Date: Tuesday, March 28th, 2023

Location: K-State Olathe, 22201 West Innovation Drive, Olathe, KS 66061

Hosted by: Shawnee Mission School District Black Student Unions

Event Sponsored by K-State College of Agriculture Diversity Programs Office, K-State Office of Diversity and Multicultural Student Affairs, and Hormel Foods.

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Shawnee Mission School District (SMSD) Black Student Union (BSU) Sponsors and Supporters

Indian Woods Middle School

Sponsor: Jarita Tate

Shawnee Mission East High School

Sponsor: Jessica Schmitt

Shawnee Mission North High School

Sponsor: Bill Paterson

Shawnee Mission Northwest High School

Sponsors: Daniah Hammouda, Jamie Ledbetter, and Sheila Young

Shawnee Mission South High School

Sponsors: Patrick Grant, Jasmine Morgan, and Leslie Selzer

Shawnee Mission West High School

Sponsor: Tiffany Dixon

Trailridge Middle School

Sponsor: Rolanda Bledsoe

Westridge Middle School

Sponsor: Nia Madison

SMSD DEIB Coordinator: Dr. Tyrone Bates

SMSD Director of Student & Family Services: Dr. John McKinney

SMSD Student Success Liaison: Andre Carnegie

SMSD Business to Education Program Officer: Laura Harsch

Thank you to our sponsors!



BSU Summit: Full Day Agenda

Welcome to the first annual SMSD Black Student Union (BSU) Summit! We are looking forward to a day of connection, collaboration, and inspiration. The agenda for this event has been planned with intention so that each BSU can have the best opportunity to be involved and make the most of this day. Our priority is to create a space where leaders from Black Student Unions can connect and encourage each other, and be empowered to do the important work of supporting Black youth in overcoming challenges unique to the Black community.

We value your feedback and are committed to making this event better each year. Please do not hesitate to share your thoughts and suggestions on how we can improve in the future. We believe that by working together, we can achieve great things and make a positive impact throughout the Kansas City Region.

Overview

The agenda for the BSU Summit has been carefully crafted to meet the following common needs of schools:

- **Busing.** With busing shortages, the bus departs the home school at or after 9:00 AM, which is after the morning route to pick students up from home and drop them off at school. The bus returns by 2:00 PM, allowing buses time to get to schools to pick up students for afternoon routes. This ensures that the field trip doesn't disrupt regular transportation schedules.
- **Substitute Coverage.** With substitute shortages, the BSU Summit is scheduled between Tuesday-Thursday. This ensures that the building has the best chance at having coverage, as it avoids the increase in sub requests on Mondays and Fridays.
- **Behavior Management.** The agenda considers behavior management by having all students begin and end in a common location (library), making it possible to maintain order in hallways and minimize distractions to classes that are in session. This also makes it possible for chaperones to take attendance and complete preparation activities before leaving.
- **Local Industry Awareness.** Additionally, students and chaperones use time on the bus during travel to and from the experience to learn about sponsors and industry partners that they pass while driving. This way the time spent traveling becomes more meaningful and it gives students a chance to connect what they see in the real world to their learning.

Agenda

Start of School **BSU Students Meet in The home School Library**

Students *brainstorm goals and a strategy for next school year.*

9:30 AM **Bus Departs Home School**

Learn About Our Sponsors: Agriculture and Animal Science Industry Drive Worksheet - Can you identify the major businesses along I-35? Use your smart phone to look up their website, email address, and describe what they do.

10:00 AM **Arrive at K-State Olathe**

10:15 AM **Welcome**

Dr. Zelia Wiley, K-State Agriculture Diversity Programs Office
Kevin Santos Flores, K-State Diversity & Multicultural Student Affairs
Dr. Tyrone Bates, Shawnee Mission School District

10:30 AM **Opening Session**

11:00 AM **Concurrent Breakout Sessions | 25 minutes each**

Session 1: "Navigating the College Admissions Process"
Forum Hall, Admissions Representative

Session 2: "Grit: Managing Health and Wellness"
Classroom 221 A

Session 3: "Career Opportunities and Entrepreneurship: Opportunities In Ag"
Classroom 221 B, Hormel Foods Representative

Session 4: "Food Science in Agriculture"
Boardroom, Food Science Representative

12:15 PM **Lunch - Sponsored by Hormel Foods** Bistro and Outdoor Patio

1:00 PM **Closing Remarks - "A Vision for Next School Year"** Forum Hall, Dr. Zelia Wiley

1:15 PM **Dismiss to buses**

1:30 PM **Bus Departs K-State Olathe**

2:00 PM **BSU Students Return to The Home School Library**

Students *create goals and a strategy for next school year.*

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➤➤➤ Pre-Summit Activity

The Pre-Summit Activity is an essential part of community building for students who attend the BSU Summit. Allowing time for students to come together and share their ideas and thoughts helps to create a shared vision and a sense of community. It gives students the opportunity to reflect on their experiences, identify areas for improvement for themselves and for their school, then set achievable goals for the future. This type of collaborative problem-solving helps to foster creativity, develop leadership skills, and promote a sense of ownership and investment in the future. By providing this space for students to brainstorm, sponsors can show their support and encourage members to take an active role in their personal lives and the school community.

Pre-Summit Activity (60-90 minutes)

Introduction and Attendance (10-15 minutes)

Welcome Black Student Union leaders and sponsors! Today, we are going to spend an hour in the library before we head to the summit to come up with some great ideas for next year. This time is meant to be a time for you to reflect on the work you have done so far and to think about what you would like to see happen in the future.

Group Discussion and Problem-Solving (35 - 60 minutes)

- If you have a large group, divide the students into smaller groups (3-5 people per group).
- Ask each group to come up with 3 goals for the Black Student Union for next year. If your BSU is not official, then their goals can be for their own personal growth or ways to incorporate Black history and culture at their school.
- Encourage each group to be creative and think about what will have the biggest impact.
- After 10 minutes, ask each group to present their goals to the larger group.
- Write each goal on a sticky note and put it up on the wall.
- Next, ask each group to come up with 3 strategies for achieving each goal.
- Encourage each group to be specific and think about what steps will be needed to make their goals a reality.
- After 10 minutes, ask each group to present their strategies.
- Write each strategy on a sticky note and put it under the corresponding goal.

Close The Activity (5-10 minutes):

Thank everyone for their hard work and dedication. Remind the students that they will be able to continue this discussion at the Summit and that they will have the opportunity to connect with other Black Student Union leaders from across the school district. Encourage the students to take advantage of this opportunity to network and learn from each other.

Clarify Behavior Expectations on Bus and On-Site (5-10 minutes)

Discuss appropriate and productive behaviors and the importance of maintaining relationships with industry partners.

Worksheet: Brainstorming Before The Summit

Directions: Before going to the BSU Summit, please complete the following activity to help you set goals and action steps.

Name: _____

Group Members: _____

Goal 1: _____

What specific steps will we take to achieve this goal?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Goal 2: _____

What specific steps will we take to achieve this goal?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

Goal 3: _____

What specific steps will we take to achieve this goal?

a. _____

b. _____

c. _____

»»» Post Summit Activity

The Post-Summit Activity allows time for students to reflect on what they experienced and finalize their goals after attending the summit. This time allows students to process and integrate the information they gained from the summit, and to think critically about how it applies to their goals. This reflection can lead to a deeper understanding of the challenges and opportunities and help the students to make informed decisions about their goals and strategies. Secondly, it helps students to build on the momentum gained from the summit, and to translate their experiences into actionable steps for the future. By allowing time for reflection, sponsors can support the students in their personal and collective growth, and help them to develop a strong sense of purpose and direction.

Post-Summit Activity (40-90 minutes)

Objective: Students will revisit and refine the goals discussed in the morning session and make revisions based on what was learned at the BSU Summit..

Introduction and Recap (5-10 minutes)

Review the goals that were discussed in the morning session.

Reflection (5-10 minutes)

Allow time for students to reflect on what they learned at the summit and think about any changes they want to make to their original goals

Group Discussion (15-30 minutes)

Divide the group into small groups of 3-4 students and encourage them to discuss their reflections and any changes they want to make to their goals

Share Revisions (5-15 minutes)

Have each group share their thoughts and revisions with the larger group. Encourage discussion and collaboration as the group works together to refine the goals and make any necessary revisions

Next Steps (5-10 minutes)

Discuss the next steps for achieving the refined goals, including any action items or tasks that need to be completed. Set a timeline for revisiting the goals and tracking progress.

Closing (3-5 minutes)

Thank the students for their participation and hard work, and remind them of the importance of continuing to work towards their goals in the coming months.

Worksheet: Finalizing Goals and Next Steps

Instructions:

Take some time to reflect on the information and experiences you gained from the summit. Think about the goals you discussed in the morning and consider any updates or revisions that need to be made based on what you learned at the summit.

Use the following prompts to guide your reflection and goal-setting process:

1. What were your takeaways from the Summit?
2. How did the information presented at the Summit impact your original goals?
3. What new ideas or perspectives did you gain from the Summit?
4. Are there any challenges that were presented that need to be addressed in order for your goals to be accomplished?
5. How will you incorporate the information you gained from the Summit into your goals for next year?

Conclusion:

Review your answers and finalize any revisions to your goals.

Consider how you will work with others to implement these goals in the upcoming year.

Think about any action steps you need to take to ensure the success of these goals.

Request for Administrator Approval

Getting the support of building principals is important for growing each Black Student Union (BSU). Attending the summit provides students with valuable opportunities to connect with peers from other schools, learn from experts, and engage in discussions around issues that are important to them. The experiences and knowledge gained at the summit can help students become more effective leaders and better equipped to address the challenges they may face in their own community. Having the support of the building principal sends a positive message to students and reinforces the school's commitment to diversity and inclusion.

Tips for Success

Here are some tips for Black Student Union (BSU) sponsors when working with building principals to support students and plan experiences:

- **Clearly articulate the goals and objectives of the BSU.** Explain why the BSU is important for students and what the group hopes to achieve. This will help the principal understand the purpose of the BSU and be most supportive of BSU initiatives.
- **Establish regular communication.** Set up regular meetings with the principal to keep them informed of the BSU's activities and progress. This will help maintain a positive relationship and foster a sense of collaboration.
- **Be proactive and solution-focused.** Anticipate potential challenges and proactively come up with solutions.
- **Highlight the benefits to the school and community.** Emphasize how the BSU's activities and experiences can benefit the school and community.
- **Show appreciation and gratitude.** Acknowledge the support provided by the principal and show gratitude for their time and effort.

Subject: Request for Permission to Attend the SMSD Black Student Union Summit

Dear [Building Principal's Name],

I hope this email finds you well. I am writing to request permission for a group of students from our school to attend the SMSD Black Student Union Summit at K-State Olathe on Tuesday, March 28, from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM.

The summit is an opportunity for students to connect with Black Student Union members from across the district, learn from guest speakers, and participate in interactive activities that will help them grow as leaders.

If possible, I would greatly appreciate it if the building could provide a substitute teacher to cover my classes while I serve as chaperone. This would allow me to fully participate in the summit and support the students as they learn and grow.

Thank you for your time and consideration. I look forward to hearing from you soon.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Black Student Union Sponsor

»»» Invitation Letter to BSU Members and Parents

It is important to get the support of parents when it comes to allowing their children to attend the SMSD Black Student Union (BSU) Summit. Parents are an integral part of the decision-making process for their children and their support is crucial in ensuring the students are able to attend the event. Attending the summit is a unique and valuable opportunity for students to learn and grow both personally and academically. They will have the chance to meet other Black Student Union leaders from different schools, hear from guest speakers and participate in workshops. Involving parents in this process helps to build trust and open communication between the school and the families. When parents are informed and supportive of the events their children participate in, students are more likely to be successful and engaged.

Tips for Success

Here are some tips for Black Student Union (BSU) sponsors when working with parents to support students and plan experiences in the building and outside:

- Start by building trust and relationships with parents.
- Communicate clearly and effectively about the purpose, goals, and benefits of the BSU Summit and what students will be doing there.
- Address any concerns or questions parents might have about the Summit, such as safety and travel arrangements.
- Provide opportunities for parents to get involved and support their students, such as volunteering to chaperone or donate resources.
- Share information about the positive impact the Summit can have on their students' academic and personal growth.
- Offer to answer any further questions or provide more information to help parents feel comfortable with their students' participation.
- Show appreciation for the support and trust they are giving to their students' education and development.

Dear [Student Name],

I am writing to personally invite you to attend the SMSD Black Student Union Summit at K-State Olathe on Tuesday, March 28 from 9:30 AM to 1:30 PM. This is an amazing opportunity for you to connect with Black Student Union leaders from around the district and learn about different strategies for personal success and creating change in our school and community.

At the summit, you will have the chance to participate in workshops and panels led by experts in the field, hear from inspiring speakers, and collaborate with your peers on projects and initiatives that will make a real difference in the lives of students.

The cost of transportation and lunch will be covered by K-State, and we are happy to say that I will be available to chaperone the trip. However, we need your parent or guardian's permission for you to attend.

Please take a moment to read this invitation and discuss this opportunity with your parent or guardian. If they are supportive, please return the signed permission slip to me no later than [Date].

I hope you will join us for this exciting and educational event.

Sincerely,

[Your Name]
Sponsor
School