

# Celebrating Differences

## A Multicultural Community Project

Summit Street School  
Elementary PreK-3  
Essex Junction, VT  
June 2006





# Project Goals

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- Increase awareness and appreciation of different cultures
- Create a welcoming atmosphere for international students and parents
- Integrate multicultural content within the curriculum



# Project Overview

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- Web page 'welcome letter'
- Welcome signs in multiple languages
- Flag display
- World map highlighting students' homelands
- Classroom's adopt a country
- School assemblies
- International pot-luck dinner



# Countries Highlighted

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- China
- South Korea
- Bosnia
- Vietnam
- Russia
- Germany
- France
- Spain
- Bosnia
- India
- Croatia



# Web Page Welcome Letter

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English:

I would like to wish a warm welcome to all new families that have joined the Summit Street School community. We strive to ensure a safe and respectful learning environment while promoting equity for all.

Our curriculum places the child at the center of learning as we join with parents, faculty and staff to support the academic, physical, social and emotional growth of each child. You are always welcome to visit our school and join your children in the many activities we provide.

German:

Ich möchte alle neuen Familien in unserer Schulgemeinde der Summit Street School herzlich begrüßen. Wir sind bestrebt eine sichere und von Respekt geprägte Lernumgebung zu schaffen, die allen Schülern Chancengleichheit gewährleistet. Unser Lehrplan richtet sich an den Bedürfnissen der Kinder aus. Dabei arbeiten wir als Lehrerkollegium eng mit den Eltern zusammen um jedes Kind in seiner akademischen, physischen, sozialen und emotionalen Entwicklung zu fördern.

Wir freuen uns jederzeit über Ihren Besuch in unserer Schule und laden Sie ein mit ihren Kindern and den vielen Aktivitäten die wir zu Verfügung stellen teilzunehmen.

Summit Street School web site: [www.ejhs.k12.vt.us/sum/index.cfm](http://www.ejhs.k12.vt.us/sum/index.cfm) Click on  
Principal's International Welcome



# Web Page Welcome Letter

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Chinese Mandarin:

我 此 所 有 加 入 我 峰 街 校 区 的  
新 家 庭 表 示 烈 迎 。 在 推 人 人 平  
等 的 同 ， 我 将 努 力 造 一 个 安 全  
和 令 人 尊 重 的 学 境 。

我 的 程 置 是 以 孩 子 的 学  
中 心 。 我 愿 和 所 有 的 家 及 教 工  
一 道 ， 心 力 ， 使 每 一 个 孩 子 在 德  
， 智 ， 体 各 方 面 都 得 到 展 。 迎 你  
随 到 学 校 造 ， 并 参 加 我 孩 子  
提 供 的 多 活 。

Spanish:

Bienvenidas las familias que se han unido a nuestra escuela, Summit Street School. Nuestro gol es garantizarles un sitio seguro y respetuoso donde se puede aprender en un clima de igualdad. Nuestro Currículo tiene como centro el estudiante y nos unimos con los padres la facultad y nuestro soportes para darle auge a el crecimiento físico, social, emocional y académico de cada uno de ellos. Estamos a su disposición y los invitamos a visitarnos, así como unirse a sus hijos en cualquiera de nuestras actividades.



# Web Page Welcome Letter

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French:

Un accueil chaleureux à toutes les nouvelles familles qui ont rejoint la communauté d'Ecole de Summit Street. Nous essayons de promouvoir un environnement où règnent le respect, ainsi que l'égalité pour tous nos élèves.

Notre programme de formation met en avant l'enfant, tout en faisant participer les parents, ainsi que l'université et le personnel de service afin de favoriser la croissance physique, l'évolution à la fois sur le plan social et émotif de chaque élève. Vous êtes toujours les bienvenus pour visiter notre école et participer à nos activités, accompagnés de vos enfants.

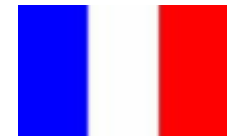
Russian:

Добро пожаловать! Мы рады приветствовать Вас в Summit Street School. Наша цель - предоставление полного, качественного образования и культурного развития Вашим детям. Образовательная программа нашей школы предусматривает вовлечение каждого ребенка в процесс обучения, применение современных педагогических технологий, эффективное взаимодействие между родителями и учителями, а также различные внеклассные мероприятия. Двери нашей школы всегда открыты для Вас и Ваших детей. Приходите! Мы ждем Вас!

# Welcome Signs / Flags



Welcome banner in 25 different languages [www.alastore.ala.org](http://www.alastore.ala.org)



Flags from [www.1-800flags.com](http://www.1-800flags.com)

# World Map

Student's names will be added to the world map highlighting their home countries

Physical Map of the World, June 2003

AUSTRALIA Independent state  
Bermuda Dependency or area of special sovereignty  
SUDY / AZORES Island / island group  
★ Capital  
Scale 1:100,000,000  
Reference: [www.nps.gov](http://www.nps.gov)  
Revised periodically by NPS and USGS



June 2003  
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# School Assembly

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- Kick off:
  - Collage/banner designed by the kindergarten class featuring international faces
  - Song expressing 'hello' in various languages (including sign language). Theme: "Building a Better World"
  - Announcement of adopted countries
  - Map used to identify adopted continents and countries



# Adopt a Country

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- Each class selected a country to study/research
- International parents and community members invited to share customs/traditions
- Curriculum:
  - Specials: integrating PE (games)/music/art
  - Literacy connections: international books/stories
  - Computer Lab: internet research
  - Language: learning foreign words and letters
  - Cafeteria features international foods (chopstick day)



# School Assembly

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- Follow-up assemblies:
  - Dances and songs
  - Classroom projects representing the cultural traditions of the adopted countries
  - Guest artists featuring international music/art/dance
  - Story teller highlighting international folk tales
  - Flag day unveiling flags from international countries



# International Pot-Luck

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- Families, staff & community members
- Ethnic foods to share
- Catered dishes from local ethnic restaurants
- Scottish music
- India dance
- Songs/poems in native languages
- Student exhibits on selected countries

# International Pot-Luck

