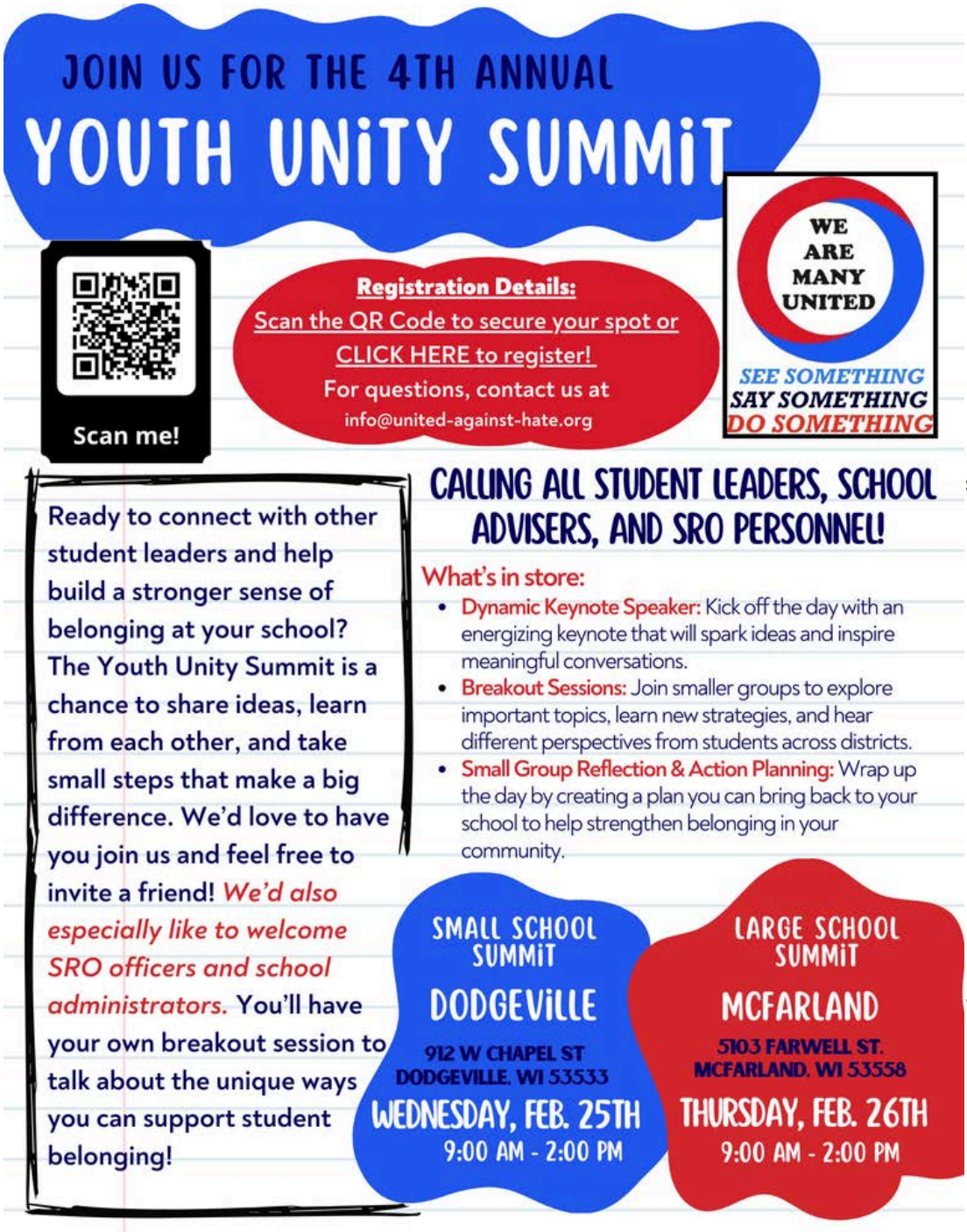
WE ARE MANY UNITED

December 2025 Addition

Youth Unity Summit, Celebrations Around the World, Winter Break Reminders

SEE SOMETHING
SAY SOMETHING
DO SOMETHING

YOU ARE INVITED TO ATTEND:
THE 4TH ANNUAL WE ARE MANY UNITED – YOUTH UNITY SUMMIT!



We Are Many United is thrilled to invite schools across Wisconsin to this year's Youth Unity Summit! This event is **created for students and led by students**, and it brings young leaders together to explore how belonging and student voice can strengthen school culture! This year, the summit is offered twice, once for small and rural schools and once for large and urban schools. ***Schools are welcome to register for whichever event works best with their schedule, regardless of size or designation.***

We encourage districts to bring a team that includes students, administrators, counselors, SROs, CROs, and any staff members who help create safe, inclusive, and supportive environments. The summit is completely free to attend!! Please read over the PDF for information! We look forward to welcoming your school community and learning from your students as they share their own perspectives on advocacy, leadership, and belonging.

Scan the QR code in the infographic to register individually or as a group.

Celebrations Around the World

The winter season brings so many reasons to celebrate. Across the world, and across our classrooms, students and families honor traditions that reflect their histories, values, and stories. This time of year is a perfect opportunity to get to know students beyond the classroom walls, invite them to share their cultural or family traditions, and find simple ways to weave those celebrations into everyday lessons. Whether through storytelling, food, music, or family customs, these winter traditions remind us that belonging begins with recognizing and celebrating each other. Click on the globe to be connected to a helpful website to learn more about holiday celebrations around the world!

Supporting Students Through Winterbreak

As we move into December, many people think of winter break as a time for rest, celebration, and family traditions. And for many students, it is. But for others, those two weeks away from school can be incredibly challenging. The routines, predictability, and connections they rely on at school may not be present at home. For some students, school is their safest place, a space where they are fed, seen, supported, and understood. Winter break can surface or intensify stressors such as:
Food insecurity | Housing instability | Family conflict or trauma | Loss of structure and routine | Limited access to trusted adults or mental health supports | Isolation or lack of peer connection | Grief and anniversaries of loss, which often feel sharper during the holidays. Because of this, returning from break can be just as difficult as leaving for it. Many students come back dysregulated, exhausted, anxious, or emotionally guarded. When we recognize these realities, we can respond with compassion and intention.

How We Can Support Students Before Break. A little preparation can make a big difference.

- **Normalize mixed emotions. Let students know it's okay if the holidays bring excitement, stress, or both.**
- **Reinforce predictable structures. Share what the last days of the semester will look like so routines feel stable before the transition.**
- **Provide access to resources. Make sure students know where to get food, warm clothing, mental health support, or crisis lines before leaving.**
- **Offer quiet check-ins. A simple "How are you feeling about break?" can open the door for students who might not otherwise share.**

For many students, the return to school is a return to safety, connection, and predictability. By approaching January with patience, empathy, and trauma-informed practices, we help create a community where every student feels grounded and supported—no matter what the winter months bring.

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