

Somerset Elementary PTSA eNews

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SOMERSET NEEDS YOU!

Planning is underway for next year's fabulous activities, community-building events, and more. Now is the time to start thinking about how you would like to be involved. All of our committees need volunteers -- moms, dads, grandparents, alums, and staff!

If you have an interest, we likely have a committee that could use your help, so please contact any PTSA officer or Francine at SomersetGames@gmail.com to get involved even if you are not sure exactly where. There are big jobs, little jobs and "when-you-can-squeeze them in" jobs, daytime events, evening events, and more!

Also, click on the link below to access the list of committees that are in need of a chair or co-chair. There are plenty of opportunities to jump in and serve. Many of these committees have past chairs ready to stay on the committee and will be around for lots of assistance. Thank you in advance!

Check out our website for committee descriptions and contact the VP of each section for more information.

BREAKFAST @ SOMERSET

Thanks to your support, we will be having the breakfast program until the end of the school year. Breakfast is served from 8:25-8:55AM daily. It is great for parents to socialize and kids to get extra time with friends, not to mention breakfast is an important meal to start the day right! Stay tune as we are inviting our teachers and staff to come join us in May for breakfast.

So grab a cup of coffee and come to Somerset for breakfast! To check out this month menu before you come.

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY 2- 6: STAFF APPRECIATION WEEK

Attention parents: next week (May 2nd-6th) is Staff Appreciation Week at Somerset Elementary! If you are interested in helping with the flower bouquets or cards, please contact your room parents. Thank you very much!

MAY 13, 6PM - FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

Draw your favorite Country's Outfit

Festival of Cultures is May 13th and you can have your artwork displayed! We will be sending home in your child's backpack, an outlined person for you to draw, color and decorate with an outfit from your favorite country. It will be displayed on the walls so everyone can see! Please return the drawing by May 11th to the main office. There will be a box marked "Festival of Cultures".

Create a Display Board

On Monday, April 25th there will be display boards available in the Main office. Pick a country and show something about it on the board. It could be a country your family is from, or one you like or visited. There will be 25 boards available free on a first come - first served basis. These boards will be displayed at the festival. If you want to do more than a display board sign up to do a booth!

Come to the Festival! May 13th at 6:00pm

Wear a costume from your favorite country and be part of the costume parade. If you don't have a costume, wear the colors of your favorite country's flag! Enjoy the booths and performances.

Pizza will be available to purchase.

Please contact Sonia Misra at Sonia.Batra@enterworks.com or 425-818-4922 to sign up or for more information.

MAY 19, 9:15-10:15 AM - PhD: INTERNET SAFETY PRESENTATION

All parents, and especially parents of 5th graders, are encouraged to attend our upcoming Internet Safety Presentation in the Somerset Elementary Library. Topics will include cyberbullying and how to help your child avoid the pitfalls of social networking. Our engaging speaker will be Stefanie Thomas, Victim Advocate, Internet Crimes Against Children Task Force, from the Seattle Police Department. Please mark your calendar!

MAY 21 - SOMERSET ANNUAL RUMMAGE SALE

Start your spring cleaning and save for the rummage sale! We will start accepting smaller items on April 25th. There will be a collection container in the front office. All large items will need to be delivered to the school on Friday May 20th from 3:30pm until 8:30pm. No large items are to be left at the school without permission of

the Rummage Sale team. If you have questions please contact Marla Seaton at coastie1992@msn.com . Please remember to save all of your paper and plastic grocery bags we will need them for the sale. If you would like to volunteer to help either the night before or the day of the rummage sale please contact Marla.

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPDATES

@ THE AUCTION:

A silver and black women's watch was found at Newcastle on the night of the auction. If you lost a watch please contact Mechelle Cheng at ptsa@mechellecheng.com .

Thank you.

FIFTH GRADERS FAMILIES

Please mark your calendars for Thursday, June 16th from 2:30-3:30 pmin the Somerset Multipurpose Room for 5th Grade Graduation/Promotion. We will be celebrating the years of excellence our kids have achieved as well as handing out the anticipated Citizenship Awards! There will be speeches read from each class about Somerset, and it is sure to be a

memorable time.

Jennifer Seder

Somerset Elementary School

Grade 5 Teacher

425-456-5800

OTHER NEWS

State Legislature and Budget Discussions:

More than ever, we need you to contact your legislators to voice your opinion/concern about the budget proposals. To learn more current issues, please visit the Bellevue School District's website.

The 41st Legislative District

Rep. Judy Clibborn: 360-786-7926 or judy.clibborn@leg.wa.gov

Rep. Marcie Maxwell: 360-786-7894 or marcie.maxwell@leg.wa.gov

Sen. Steve Litzow: 360-786-7641 or steve.litzow@leg.wa.gov

The 48th Legislative District

Rep. Deb Eddy: 360-786-7848 or deb.eddy@leg.wa.gov

Rep. Ross Hunter: 360-786-7936 or ross.hunter@leg.wa.gov

Sen. Rodney Tom: 360-786-7694 or rodney.tom@leg.wa.gov

Bellevue School Foundation - E&I GRANT WORKSHOP

2011-2012 grant applications will be available in May

BSD - LEAP INTO SUMMER FUN:

Come to check out the different Summer Programs sponsored by PAAC on Thursday, May 5th 2011 - 600-800PM @ Interlake High School.

Washington State PTA CO-SPONSORS TALK BY NATIONALLY RECOGNIZED EDUCATION LEADER IN RENTON ON MAY 16TH

The Renton Community Foundation's Maxwell Fund for Youth & Families invites you to hear Dr. Bill Daggett, a nationally recognized educator, speaker, and CEO of the International Center for Leadership in Education. Dr. Daggett knows our state's education system, federal education mandates, current issues and trends-and he will share what all students need to succeed on Monday, May 16th, 2011 at the Renton IKEA Performing Arts Center, 400 South 2nd Street, Renton, 98057. There is no charge for attending if you make an advance reservation by April 30th, although there is a cancellation/no show fee of \$45. Separate sessions have been scheduled for different audiences, as follows:

- A) 8:00 am to 11:00 am: Superintendents, administrators, principals, legislators, school board directors, civic policy makers
- B) 12:30 pm to 3:30 pm: Same as A above
- C) 4:00 pm to 6:00 pm: Teachers, counselors, classified staff, parents, community, and all
- D) 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm: Same as C above

Please send your email reservation to marcie@marciemaxwell.org by April 30. Your reservation must include attendee's name, attendee's email address, attendee's title or affiliation, attendee's school district, and must specify A, B, C, or D time selection. Washington State PTA is a co-sponsor of this event along with the Renton Community Foundation Maxwell Fund for Youth & Families, the Association of Washington School Principals, the League of Education Voters, the Renton School District, the Washington Association for Career & Technical Education, the Washington Association of School Administrators, the Washington Business Alliance, and the Washington State School Directors' Association.

SPRING FOR SCHOOL - SAVE THE DATE!

Bellevue School Foundation's annual Spring for Schools benefit luncheon is Thursday, May 26, 2011. This event raises over \$500,000 to support Bellevue public schools each year. If you'd like to put together a table or know a company with a passion for education who might like to help sponsor this event, please contact the BSF office at 425-456-4199.

COMMUNITY CORNER

Somerset Cub Scouts

Is your son interested in joining the cub scouts? The Somerset cub scout pack is very active and holds all kinds of activities. Find out how your son can join and participate in end of year and summer activities. This includes a rocket launch, push cart derby, family barbeque, hiking, and camping trips. Please contact Jason Liang (jliangseattle@yahoo.com) for more information.

GREAT SUMMER ADVENTURE CAMP - entering 6th grade.

Find more information

Somerset Elementary PTSA (Parent Teacher Student Association) is a self-governing unit of parents and teachers that plans its programs and activities to meet the needs of children and youth at Somerset Elementary School, Bellevue, Washington. Somerset PTSA's focus is to enrich the social, cultural, and academic experience of the students at Somerset.