

Somerset PTSA Newsletter

eNews

UPCOMING EVENTS

January 24

Author visit - Kirby Larson

January 26, 6:30-7:30PM

PTSA General Meeting

January 27 5:15-6:00PM

- New Kindergarten Parents
Information Event

- Luncheon for Teachers/Staff

- 4th/5th grade Choir

January 28th

K-2nd Grade
Vision Screening

February 3 9:15-10:15AM

PhD: Anti-bullying

Kristen DeAlteriis - School
Psychologist
Betty Hannaford - Somerset
Elem. Principal

February 8, 7:00-8:30PM

PhD: Discussion on School Funding

Scott Allen - State PTA
President
Betty Hannaford - Somerset
Elem. Principal

February 9, **Rockstar Day** **Pennies for Patients**

February 11 6:00-8:00PM Family Game Night

February 21 Focus Day

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FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

FAMILY GAME NIGHT

BSD INFORMATION

Dear Michael,

Our Somerset PTSA General Meeting is scheduled this Wednesday evening. Our major agenda will be on the up-coming Fund-raising Auction. The Auction committee members will be there before the meeting (6:00PM) and after the meeting to answer any questions, concerns, as well as receiving donating items. All members and non-members of Somerset PTSA are courteously invited to this meeting. Your involvement is critical to our success in supporting our school.

Young Scientist Week is just around the corner! While the actual event is in April, preparation for your child's project starts now! The first step is deciding what question to ask! Follow the link below to view the schedule and get started! If you have any questions, please contact Michael Ketchum at ketch18@gmail.com or call at 425.449.0143.

[Young Scientist Week Information](#)

Our ENews is packed with information every week. Please feel free to forward your ENews to parents whom you know do not receive the ENews and encourage them to simply click on the left to join our mailing list. Thank you for helping us communicating better with parents.

BREAKFAST PROGRAM SURVEY

Interested in a Somerset Breakfast Program?

February 21-25
Mid-Winter Break

Receive eNews

Join Our Mailing List!

Quick Links

[Somerset Website](#)

[Auction 2010-2011](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)

[Washington State PTSA](#)

[Bellevue Schools Foundation](#)

[WASL Scores](#)

Find us on Facebook 

YEARBOOK PHOTOS

We want your photos!
Please send any and all
photos you'd like to see in
the yearbook
[HERE](#).

SOMERSET YEARBOOK

It is time to order your
Yearbooks! \$20 per book. \$16
for siblings.

If you have lost your order form
you can click [here](#)!

MATH ADVENTURE

Have you register your
team/individuals for Math
Adventure? **The deadline is
January 31st!**
Read more [HERE](#), or see our
flyer and registration form
[HERE](#). If you would like to be on
our email list, or would like help
finding a team, please email
somersetmath@gmail.com

This program would allow students to be dropped off at 8:30 am for a hot breakfast. Approximate cost would be \$2. Families who qualify for free or reduced lunches would receive free or reduced breakfast rates.

If you would be interested in a morning breakfast program at Somerset, please reply to our quick mini-survey at this link:
<http://tinyurl.com/2b845gt>
Thank you!

STAFF APPRECIATION COMMITTEE

Luncheon For Teachers and Staff Coming!!

The Staff Appreciation Committee will be hosting an informal luncheon for teachers and staff on **THURSDAY, JANUARY 27th!**

Thank you ALL 2nd and 3rd grade classrooms for helping us! As a reminder, each 2nd grade class was asked to contribute one crock-pot of soup and each 3rd grade class to contribute one dozen rolls.

The committee will be providing pin-wheel sandwiches.

Room parents: If you haven't responded to us, please let us know that you've got the information! For the 2nd grade classes, if you will let us know what kind of soup you will be providing, it would be very helpful. Questions or concerns, please e-mail:

Melinda Workman melindaworkman@yahoo.com or Kayoko Price
kayokoprice@comcast.net

Thank you for your participation!

Successful Fundraising for Staff Appreciation Committee!!

Staff Appreciation Committee had a very successful fundraiser at the Chess Tournament on 1/17 (Martin Luther King Jr Day). We are delighted to have more support for staff appreciation events for the rest of the school year!! A hearty thanks to the Chess Club for giving us the opportunity and chess club members and parents for supporting us.
Thank you, Staff Appreciation Committee!

AUCTION NEWS

Excitement is building for our **Mardi Gras Auction** on **March 12, 2011**, at the Newcastle Golf Club!

If you did not receive your invitation in the mail, contact Mechelle Cheng at zarilla123@gmail.com or Colleen Allison at k-c_allison@comcast.net.

Click here (www.somersetptsa.org) to see the youtube video by John Curley, our auctioneer and former host of TV's Evening Magazine! Enjoy a wonderful dinner, great shopping deals, and beautiful original art made by our children's classrooms, knowing you are doing your part to keep Somerset a school of excellence! Somerset Elementary depends on this fundraiser being a success which in turn depends on YOU!



PTSA Executive Committee

Presidents

Michael & Marrie Ketchum

VP Ways & Means

Mechelle Cheng

VP Programs

Kayoko Price

VP Communication

My-Linh Thai

Treasurer

Sandrine Gupta

Secretary

Colleen Allison

PTSA Board of Directors

Ana Ballard

Audrey Scallon

Beth Scherzo

Colleen Allison

Francine Wiest

Kayoko Price

Mechelle Cheng

Melissa Slater

Michael & Marrie Ketchum

My-Linh Thai

Ruth Raskind

Sandrine Gupta

Sue Ung

Suzanne Kogishi

SOMERSET PTSA COMMITTEES/PROGRAMS

1. Art Imagination
2. [Auction](#)
3. Back-to-School
4. Bellevue School Foundation
5. Book Fair
6. Care and Share
7. Chess Club
8. Emergency Preparedness
9. Cookie Dough
10. Database/Directory
11. eNews
12. Festival of Cultures
13. Fieldday
14. Fifth Grade Activities
15. Fifth Grade Drug and Alcohol Education
16. Family Games
17. Grant Writing
18. Healthroom
19. Health and Wellness
20. Historian/Photographer
21. Knitting Club

Procurement form can be picked up in the office OR download from somersepts.org. Thank you for your support, and see you on March 12th!

SOMERSET ELEMENTARY INFORMATION

1. Vision Screening:

Chris Houden, the School Nurse, needs volunteers for the yearly vision screening that will be held from **9:05am to 11:45am on Friday Jan 28** (Kindergarten thru 2nd grade), and **Friday Feb 11** (3rd thru 5th grade). 5+ people are needed each day to help with the actual screening process (training provided-it's simple!), gathering classes and crowd control. It's fun and easy! We have a big school and this important (and required) screening can't be done without your help!!!!

If interested please contact Dusty Udris at erynnu@hotmail.com. Let me know which day you prefer.

2. PARENT MEETINGS - NEW KINDERGARTEN STUDENTS 2011-2012 SCHOOL YEAR

January 27, 2011, 5:15 PM - 6:00 PM

March 24, 2011, 9:15 AM - 10:00 AM

No reservations necessary We are looking forward to seeing you there!

We are looking for parents who are able to speak a second language to help us better communicate with our english-is-second-language new parents. If you can help, please let Muriel know. Your presence at the stated dates are requested, however, you can also be a point-of-contact via telephone or email. Thank you for your consideration.

3. [Mid-Winter Break Registration Form](#) .

Any questions contact the Early Learning Program Business Office at:

E-Mail Contact: childcare@bsd405.org

Phone Contact: (425) 456-4030

PARENTHOOD DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

Two February Ph.D. (ParentHood Development) Events:

How to Help Your Child Deal with Bullying Behaviors

Thursday, 2/3, 9:15 - 10:15 am

Somerset Elementary (Room to be Announced)

Betty Hannaford, Principal, and Kristen De Alteriis, Counselor/Psychologist, will share strategies the school uses to teach students how to recognize bullying behavior and how to respond to it. All children at some point will experience bullying behaviors, whether as the recipient, the one doing the bullying behavior, or the bystander who witnesses it. Learn how to help

22. Legislative Advocacy
23. Library Volunteers
24. Math Adventure
25. Math Olympiad
26. Membership
27. New Families
28. Parenthood Development (PhD)
29. Playground Planning
30. Pride Team
31. Recess - Walk-about
32. Reflections
33. Room parents
34. Roots of Empathy
35. Rummage Sale
36. Snow/Ski Program
37. Somerset Matter
38. Staff Appreciation
39. Surveys
40. Walk-a-thon
41. Website
42. Young Authors
43. [Young Scientist Week](#)

your child become more socially-skilled and emotionally-intelligent on the playground and in their peer relationships in general. Coffee and tea will be served.

"Why Are Class Sizes So Big?" A Discussion on School Funding
 Tuesday, 2/8, 7 - 8:30pm

Somerset Library (Child care for Somerset students provided)
 Our presenters will be Scott Allen, WA State PTA President, and Betty Hannaford, Principal, who will explain how WA State funds public education and our current budget climate. Please join us!

SOMERSET RECYCLING - GREEN TEAM

Please remember to recycle your old inkjet cartridges and cell phones in the office! For each eligible cartridge/cell phone we submit to our partner Planet Green, Somerset will receive a rebate which will go to support Somerset Green Team initiatives. Need new printer ink? Somerset is also participating in the "Buy Recycle Program" through Planet Green, which means the next time you need a new inkjet printer cartridge, you can purchase a remanufactured one through Somerset's unique Planet Green webpage (www.planetgreenrecycle.com/somersetgreenteam) and Planet Green will donate 15% of the purchase price to Somerset. Thanks so much for your support and go Superstars!

Somerset Green Team
 Shanna McLean

FESTIVAL OF CULTURES

The Festival of Cultures has been POSTPONED!!
 Due to the family emergency of the Committee Chair, the PTSA Board of Directors has decided to postpone the Festival of Cultures.
 First, thank you for the group of people who have signed up for performances and cultural booths, we hope this has not caused any inconveniences.
 We will let you know as soon as we know the new date for the Festival of Cultures!! Most likely it will be sometime in May.

Thank you, Kayoko (VP-Program)

FAMILY GAME NIGHT!

Festival of Cultures postponed and we will have a Family Game Night instead from 6-8pm.

Family Game Night: Cards!!!
Trading Card Games, Classic Card Games, and New Favorites
Friday February 11th 6-8pm in the cafeteria
Free Fabulous Family Fun!

Bring your Pokemon Yu-Gi-Oh or Magic collections if you want to trade buy

cards, or battle other Pokemon, Yu-Gi-Oh, or Magic fans.

Play Classic Card Games with a standard deck of cards or discover New Favorites through demos games including My Word, Set, Quiddler, Fluxx, 7 ATE 9, Great Dalmuti, Aquarius, Lost Cities, You've Been Sentenced, Coloretto and more!

Thank you to our expert friends from Games & Gizmos for the loan of demo games. They will also be on hand with advice and games for purchase. Contact Francine at SomersetGames@gmail.com with questions or to assist with this event.

Note if you bring your own cards you are solely responsible for maintaining them. We strongly recommend labeling your cards and have ground rules set if your child(ren) choose(s) to trade.

BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT

1. The Bellevue Schools Foundation (BSF) will be at the **District's College Conference - Wed. Jan 26 at Interlake and Thurs. Jan 27 at Sammamish, 6:30-8:30PM**. Please stop by our table to introduce yourself and hear about BSF's support for College Corps.

2. You're Invited to the 5th Annual Education Showcase - **"What Makes Powerful Learning" on March 23rd**: Formerly known as the Education Roadshow, this free annual event provides an opportunity for Bellevue parents, teachers, and the community to learn more about district schools, trends in K-12 education, and concepts related to student learning. This year's event will be at Sammamish High School. The Resource Fair starts at 5:30pm, followed by a keynote presentation and breakout sessions. The Education Showcase is brought to you by the Bellevue School District, Bellevue PTSA Council, BSF, and Bellevue Quality Schools.

3. **Monday, February 7th, 6:45-8:15PM**
ESC 12111 NE 1st Street, Bellevue 98005

What do you want to know about the future of gifted education in Bellevue? **Randy Stocker**, Executive Director of Exemplary Programs, and **Amalia Cudeiro**, Superintendent, will help us understand what to expect and explain how their vision for differentiated instruction might look for a gifted or highly gifted student.

We want to make best use of everyone's time, so **please submit your questions BEFORE January 20** to Karen Roper, karen.roper@gmail.com, who will organize them by topic to help Randy and Amalia create a focused presentation that covers the most ground.

4. **Superintendent's coffee hour: 6:30 - 8:00 PM**

- January 26th - Highland Middle School
- February 3rd - Sammamish High School
- February 9th - Newport High School

Bellevue School District five-year Strategic Plan Community Engagement Forum are scheduled to take part in the coffee hour listed above.

COMMUNITY CORNER

EXPLORATIONS IN MATH

February 5th, 12-4PM
Cross Road Mall

HELPING THOSE IN NEED

If you or someone you know is in need, you are not alone. Help is out there. The following organizations help families right in our area:

- The Overlake Service League connects families to resources and is equipped to deal with emergency situations: 425-451-1175.
- Community Services in King County can help with many situations. They can be reached by dialing 211 (expect a lengthy wait time).
- The Jubilee Reach Center, a local organization that offers many resources including some medical care, can be reached at 425-452-4240.
- The South Bellevue Community Center's Bellevue Boys & Girls Club has a childcare program. The Community Center is located on Newport Way and space is still available in their childcare program. A sliding scale can be used to determine what you can afford to pay for care. You can reach the Community Center by calling 425-452-4240.
- If you believe your heat is going to be turned off, you can call the Emergency Energy Assistance program at 1-800-348-7144. It's open Mon.-Thurs. and the best time to call is 9am (expect a wait time).
- If your heat has already been disconnected, you can call 425-869-6027. Hopelink will work with you to get your heat turned back on.

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. Contact us at President@somersetptsa.org