



September 07, 2018

Unit # 020465

## PTSA NEWS

### PTSA / School Calendar - Upcoming Dates and Events

- Wednesday, September 12th, 7.00 - 8.00pm - Parent Orientation for Math Olympiad
- Thursday, September 13th, 6.00 - 7.30pm - Curriculum Night grades 1st, 3rd and 5th
- Monday, September 17th, 6.00 - 7.30pm - Curriculum Night grades K, 2nd and 4th
- Tuesday, September 18th - Vision & Hearing Screening - [sign up](#) to volunteer
- Friday, September 21st, 6.30 - 8.30pm - Back-to-school Ice Cream Social Night
- Friday, September 28th, 6.15 - 7.30pm - Kindergarten and 1st grade Noodle Night
- Tuesday, October 2nd - Picture Day
- Wednesday, October 3rd - Picture Day
- Wednesday, October 10th - Walk to School Day
- Friday, October 12th - Professional Day - No School
- Tuesday, October 16th - Parenthood Development Event
- Tuesday, October 23rd - 7.00 - 8.00pm - PTSA General Membership Meeting
- Friday, October 26th - 6.00 - 8.00pm - STEM Fair / Family Engineering Night

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### 2018-19 Fall Fundraising Drive

#### INVEST. ENRICH. TOGETHER.

Let's INVEST to ENRICH our children's education...TOGETHER!

Our annual Fall Fundraising Drive kicked off Thursday, **August 30<sup>th</sup>** and will run through Friday, **September 28<sup>th</sup>**! We are excited to see how our amazing school community comes together to reach our goal!

We are asking EACH student to donate at least \$200 to raise the necessary funds to keep vital programming and support at Somerset.

Donate online at: [www.somersetptsa.org](http://www.somersetptsa.org) or look in your welcome back packets for the yellow fall

fundraising brochure. On the back of that brochure, you will find a form that you can fill out and drop off with a check made payable to: *Somerset PTSA*. Please drop off forms and check in the PTSA mailbox located inside the school office.

### **Questions?**

For more information about our Fall Fundraising Drive please go to [www.somersetptsa.org](http://www.somersetptsa.org) or email us at [somersetptsa@gmail.com](mailto:somersetptsa@gmail.com)

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### **Ice Cream Social**

Friday, September 21 from 6.30 - 8.30pm

Please join us in the Somerset Cafeteria for our PTSA Welcome Back-to-School Ice Cream Social and Community Fair. It is a great opportunity to reconnect with old friends and make some new ones. Meet the Somerset PTSA Board and volunteer for the school year. We will have a few vendors to share information as well. We look forward to seeing you there!

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### **Join the Somerset PTSA**

Please become a PTSA member! Our membership fee is only \$25 per family per year and \$15 for a single parent membership. For about 6 cents a day, your membership fee supports the education, health and welfare of all students at Somerset. As a member, you will receive discounts to Wild Waves Theme Park, Great Wolf Lodge, car rentals, Key Arena, McCaw Hall, Angels of the Wings Arena at Everett, Ticket Monster, etc. Your membership will also help us reach our goal of winning 100% Membership Award, Bronze/Gold/Platinum Award, etc. from the Washington State PTA, which we have won in the past two years. Our annual student directory is exclusively for current PTSA members.

We kindly ask you to join our effort to make Somerset a GREAT school by joining or renewing your membership today! To join/renew your membership, please go to [www.somersetptsa.org](http://www.somersetptsa.org) and click on "PTSA Membership" or fill out the membership form in the welcome packet and drop it off in the PTSA box in the Somerset Office.

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### **2018 - 2019 PTSA Chairs Recruiting**

Somerset PTSA offers a variety of programs to benefit all students and families in our school. We need your help to continue these excellent programs in 2018-19 school year. Chair positions are open for parents to take a lead:

Nomination of Recognition  
PhD (Parenthood Development)  
Volunteer Coordinator  
Maker Market  
Potluck Family Night  
2018 Fall Fundraising Drive  
Field Day  
Book Fair

We are also looking for co-chairs for the following programs:

Auction  
Grant Writing  
Bellevue School Foundation Ambassador

If you are interested, please email us at [somersetpts@gmail.com](mailto:somersetpts@gmail.com). We will connect you with previous chairs for transition and training. We work together for our children! Thank you!

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### **Parent Orientation for Math Olympiad**

Wednesday, September 12 from 7.00 - 8.00pm

Math Olympiad is an annual Washington state math competition for teams (4 students/team) to compete by completing challenging word problems within a designated time period. If you have a Fourth or Fifth grader who may be interested in participating, please attend the parent orientation at the Somerset Library. We will provide details about the program, introduce some changes and answer your questions. Please note, this meeting is intended for adults only, childcare will not be provided.

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### **Vision and Hearing Screening - Volunteers needed**

This year we are going to be doing the Vision and Hearing Screening at Somerset all in one day on Tuesday, September 18, 2018. We are looking for parent volunteers to help run the screening smoothly. No previous experience is required. Volunteers should arrive at school by 8:50 am. Volunteer tasks will include going to the classroom and bringing the class to the screening, recording results, standing in the rooms and outside in the hallway to help students get to the right place and keep the area as quiet as possible, helping the screener obtain student names, and adjusting the order of the classes that are scheduled as needed.

Please sign up [here](#). Screening will take until about 1.30pm.

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## Somerset Chess Club

Chess is excellent at teaching kids mental discipline, to look at all their options, to compete under time pressure, to play fair, to learn that mistakes have consequences, to not give up when behind, and to learn many more important life lessons.

Students in grades K through 5 are invited to join the chess club. Kindergartners who want to join should know simple math and some reading and writing, no other skills are required.

This year, the registration will be a two-stage process. The first stage is priority registration and open to last year's club volunteers only; the second stage, general registration, is open to all active PTSA members. General registration opens at 10 am on Sep 21st, 2018; the registration link will be announced in the eNews the morning of September 21.

Students can register for 2 different sessions this year. **Session I** will be divided in the Beginning Class and the Advanced Class and will be held Mondays from 3.35 - 5.05pm. **Session II** will be a mixed level class and will be held Tuesdays from 3.35 - 5.05pm.

The tuition rate is \$370, which includes: 23 chess club sessions, a full year license fee for the chess homework website, all the chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class rewards and year-end party. Not included: tournament registration fees (about \$20 per tournament). No refunds after registration. In addition, all enrolled families need to have an **active PTSA membership**.

Also, parents must be available to volunteer once during the year for each enrolled student. No chess knowledge needed – parents will monitor kids, help run the club, help with checkout, and make sure rooms are clean at the end of the day.

For more information on meeting dates, meeting rooms. chess coaches and more please click [here](#).

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## Volunteer Background Check

The Bellevue School District requires all volunteers to complete a background check before they volunteer at school. Starting from this year, all background check is done online. Please follow <https://bsd405.org/get-involved/volunteer/> to complete it. If you don't know your children's ID, please follow the instructions on [Verified Volunteers website](#) or call our school front desk.

If your background check was run more than three years ago and you wish to continue to volunteer in BSD schools, please go to the [Verified Volunteers website](#) for BSD, register for an account and submit the information required. You will need (only) one of your children's ID for submission.

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## Spirit Wear

Show your pride as a Somerset Superstar and wear your Somerset spirit wear to school! Somerset spirit wear will be on sale during our PTSA Welcome Back-to-School Ice Cream Social. You can also order [online](#) or pick up an order form in the main office.

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## After School Activity Info

Information about after-school programs will be listed below in the “**Community News**” of the eNews. The after-school programs in the Community News section are run by outside vendors and are NOT sponsored by the PTSA. As a service to the community, the PTSA publicizes these programs in the eNews. In addition to these outside vendor-run programs, Somerset Elementary School will run a Coding Club (for 4- 5<sup>th</sup> graders) & Robotics Club (for K-5<sup>th</sup> graders). The school will provide information about those clubs in the near future.

There are three types of after-school activities:

1. Those run by our PTSA: Chess Club and Math Olympiad. There are chairs and volunteers to run each program and PTSA memberships are required. We put those news pieces under the PTSA news section.
2. Those run by our teachers: Coding Club and Robotics Club. Teachers will send out information to the appropriate grades in the near future. If we receive info from them, we will include it in our weekly eNews under the School News section.
3. Those run by outside vendors: Soccer, Karate, Art, Coding, etc. All registrations and payments are handled by the vendor directly. They are not covered by our insurance. PTSA helped to bring them in based on feedback from our annual parent survey as a service to our community.

All after school activities for this school year offered and run by outside vendors are currently being coordinated and contracted. Please stay tuned for more details in our weekly eNews.

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## Pictures for Yearbook

Our new yearbook chair, Kristine Music, is asking all parents to send in their child's / children's first day of school pictures to be used in the next yearbook. Please email your pictures directly to [yearbooks.somerset@gmail.com](mailto:yearbooks.somerset@gmail.com).

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## Amazon Smile

Our school is participating in the AmazonSmile Foundation. AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way to support our school every time you shop at Amazon. When shopping at Amazon, please use your

account to log in [smile.amazon.com](https://smile.amazon.com) and select 'Somerset Elementary PTSA' to receive donations from eligible purchases. Or click <https://smile.amazon.com> for your purchase. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to our PTSA. Thank you very much for supporting our school and PTSA.

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## SCHOOL NEWS

### **Clothes Hangers Needed**

School has been in session for only a week but the lost & found is already piling up. To keep the lost & found organized on the clothes rack in the hall way, the school office is asking for hanger donations. If you have clothes hangers in your home that you don't need any longer please consider donating these to the school. Approximately around 100 hangers will be needed to keep the rack tidy. Please drop off hangers directly in the school office. THANK YOU.

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## COMMUNITY NEWS

### **Tryout for Newport Girls Select Basketball**

It's that time of year again! The Newport Girls Basketball Association is happy to announce the upcoming season for Newport Select Girls Basketball and we look forward to seeing all of our new and returning girls! Tryouts for this season's play are now on the calendar! Check us out on Facebook or <http://NGBA.team> (Girls are encouraged to attend both days)

Tuesday, September 11, 2018 @ NHS

6:15-7:30 PM: 4-6th grade

7:30-9:00 PM: 7-8th grade

Wednesday, September 12, 2018 @ NHS

6:15-7:30 PM: 4-6th grade

7:30-9:00 PM: 7-8th grade

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### **Join Somerset's Cub Scouts**

Is your child interested in learning about Cub Scouts?

Cub Scouts is filled with fun activities and it also teaches youth about nature, good citizenship,

sportsmanship, leadership, fitness, community involvement, and service. We currently have openings for scouts to join Kindergarten, 1st Grade and 4th Grade Dens. Please contact Ron for more information and how to join at [ronwangeling@gmail.com](mailto:ronwangeling@gmail.com).

Ron Wangling / Den Leader - Somerset Cub Scout Pack 629

Website: [www.pack629.shutterfly.com](http://www.pack629.shutterfly.com) / Cell: (206) 225-4116

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## **Donut Fun Run**

Four local BSD high school students are holding a charity Donut Fun Run at Interlake High School in Bellevue, WA on Sunday, September 16th! 100% of proceeds benefit the Ronald McDonald House Charities, which provide families with hospitalized children a home-away-from-home during their stay at the Seattle Children's Hospital.

"Raise Love, Raise Dough" by signing up on their website at [donutfunrun.weebly.com](http://donutfunrun.weebly.com) for a morning of fun for the whole family. Family and student discounts apply! Donut giveaways, fun raffles, and refreshments will be included!

Follow them on Facebook and Instagram at [@donutfunrun](https://www.facebook.com/donutfunrun).

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## **Directory / Links**

### **Executive Committee**

Co-President: Bonnie Lau & Christine Lee

Secretary: Katherine Ma

Co-VP Programs: Aparna Sambamoorthy & Xiaohui Ge

Co-VP Ways & Means: Emilie Castle & Debbie Chiu

VP Communications: Andrea Wohlan

Co-Treasurer: Vivian Chen & Yan Zhou

Somerset PTSA Email: [Somersetptsa@gmail.com](mailto:Somersetptsa@gmail.com)

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset Elementary School Website](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)