

Somerset Strong News 3.26.2021

Somerset Families,

We welcomed our fourth-grade hybrid learners back to school this week and look forward to welcoming our third graders on Monday.

I want to take this opportunity to show my appreciation and gratitude to the staff and Somerset community for partnering together to provide safe and efficient arrival and dismissal for our students. We have been using up to 22 staff members each day to greet students, ensure they know where to go and verify a completed health check. Families have been doing an excellent job of following the new procedures and ensuring the health check is done in a time for students to enter class when the bell rings.

We joke in the office because it is obvious when it is time for arrival and dismissal because we all turn our walkie talkies on at about the same time. When the knob is turned, “Power On” echoes throughout the halls. It has become our arrival and dismissal slogan, “power on and ready to go.” When you see a Somerset Team member, thank them for their daily service. These friendly smiles and happy greetings help start a student’s day off with encouragement and promotes a stronger sense of belonging. Sometimes it is the simple things that make us Somerset Strong!

I was glad to see so many of our families at the PTSA Parenthood Development night’s discussion event on How to Talk to Kids about Race and Racism. If you weren’t able to attend the event, the event was recorded, and the link will be available in the Somerset PTSA newsletter. A shout out to Jamie Cho for her inspiring and informative presentation.

In partnership!



SOMERSET
STR  **NG**
NO MATTER THE DISTANCE



Somerset Sensory Garden: Plants with a variety of textures, scents, and colors were delivered to be planted for our students to experience and enjoy.

[See Below for:](#)

[Visual Schedule for Grades 3-5 In-person Learning expansion](#)

[School Picture Pick up information](#)

[Text communication from Somerset Educators](#)

[List of items for “Groceries for Families” donation drive](#)

[Library book checkout dates](#)

[Photo of the week](#)

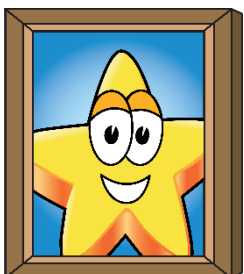
Somerset Elementary Information



3 rd -5 th Grade March & April	M	T	W	Th	F
	March 15	March 16	March 17 All Remote	March 18 4 th Grade Async	March 19 4 th Grade Async
	March 22 4 th Grade In-person	March 23 4 th Grade In-person	March 24 All Remote	March 25 4 th Grade In-person	March 26 3-5 remote
				3 rd Grade Async	3 rd Grade Async
	March 29 4 th Grade In-person	March 30 4 th Grade In-person	March 31 All Remote	April 1 4 th Grade In-person	April 2 4 th Remote
	3 rd Grade In-Person	3 rd Grade In-Person		3 rd Grade In-Person	3 rd remote
				5 th grade Async	5 th grade async
	April 5 4 th Grade In-person	April 6 4 th Grade In-person	April 7 All Remote	April 8 4 th Grade In-person	April 9 4 th Grade In-person
	3 rd Grade In-Person	3 rd Grade In-Person		3 rd Grade In-Person	3 rd remote
	5 th grade in person	5 th grade in person		5 th grade in person	5 th remote
April 12 Spring Break No school	April 13 Spring Break No school	April 14 Spring Break No school	April 15 Spring Break No school	April 16 Spring Break No school	
April 19 Remote Learning k-5 quarantine	April 20 Remote Learning k-5 quarantine	April 21 All Remote	April 22 Remote Learning k-5 quarantine	April 23 Remote Learning k-5 quarantine	
April 26 k-5 in person	April 27 k-5 in person	April 28 All Remote	April 29 k-5 in person	April 30 k-5 in person	

- Grades k-2 are in person Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday except for 4/19-4/23 quarantine week.
- K-5 will return after quarantine week for four days each week.
- Thursday and Friday prior to start dates are for classroom and teacher preparation. Teachers provide async learning.
- Remote days on Wednesday & Friday follow current Schedule.
- Grade 3-5 drop-off is at 143rd Ave SE crosswalk. Use either side of street. Students must use crosswalk
- Drop off is 8:50 and 12:50. Remain in the car until greeted by Somerset staff.
- Please remember to complete health check prior to 8:30 and 12:30 to ensure efficient arrival for student.

School Pictures Have Arrived



5th grade and virtual families are welcome to stop by the office window to pick up school photos next week.

The office will be available to hand out photos on [Mon, March 29th](#) and [Tue, March 30th @ 9:15-11AM or 1:15-3PM](#)

Transportation Questions

If your child qualifies for bus transportation and you have questions about routes or pick up times, please reach out to gregorys@bsd405.org or call the school office and ask for Shannon.



Text Communication from Somerset



Talking Points is a texting app that allows educators to communicate back and forth with families seamlessly in their preferred home language via Text Messages composed on the staff computer and received as texts on the family's phone. You'll see texts from our Attendance Specialist, Tammy Mitchell, reminding families to complete the health check. You may see texts from teachers to remind families of special projects or important events. Click here to take a look at the [Getting Started Guide for Families](#). This will walk you through how to download the app and select your home language. Talking Points is rostered with our student information system, so the language you specified as your home language when enrolling your student is the language the texts will appear in. You don't need to download the app to receive the texts from educators. Our goal is to increase collaboration and family engagement through an additional mode of communication! If you have any questions about Talking Points, please contact Amy Scott at scotta@bsd405.org.

Principal Birthday lunches – 12:30-1:00



April Birthday lunch celebration will be April 28 at 12:30. Students with a April birthday will receive a Teams invite through their student email accounts from Ruth Embaye, our office manager on the day prior. If you don't receive an invitation, please reach out to embayer@bsd405.org and she will send the link. Each session includes an opportunity for students to share something exciting about birthdays, a quick art project and a short story. It is a highlight for us to share this time celebrating students. Please note we have moved the birthday lunch celebrations to Wednesday to ensure all students, both virtual and hybrid can attend.

Student Council's Groceries for Families Drive

Last week to drop off items off and donate to our student council's "Groceries for Families" drive. Please consider donating items on the list below to support Bellevue families through Jubilee Reach.

*All proceeds go to Jubilee reach!

GROCERIES FOR FAMILIES DRIVE

1. Baby wipes
2. Diapers all sizes
3. Paper towels
4. Cooking oil large size only
5. Bulk rice
6. Bulk pinto beans
7. Quart and gallon ziplock bags
8. Laundry soap pods
9. Dish soap
10. Cat/dog food
11. Cat litter

Thank you for your support!

A red outline of a shopping basket filled with various grocery items like bananas, a bottle of oil, and other produce.

Somerset Library Wednesday Check-out Dates

Librarian Mrs. Bravenec would like to remind families that students may reserve and check out books from our Somerset library! Books may be picked up by all families on Wednesday afternoons from 3:30-5:30pm at the front doors of Somerset. Masks and social distancing required.

For hybrid students attending in person, Mrs. Bravenec will deliver books to your child's classroom teacher if you are not able to pick them up. For virtual students attending remotely, please contact Mrs. Bravenec to make alternate pick up arrangements if that Wednesday time is not convenient for you.

Mrs. Bravenec knows not all families are comfortable with checking out books at this time, and it is NOT required to do so. If your student needs help accessing books online through Sora, King County Library, Epic, TumbleBooks, etc., please let Mrs. Bravenec know and she can help!

Check-out Wednesdays:

March 31 st	April 7 th April 21 st April 28 th	May 5 th May 12 th May 19 th May 26 th (LAST DAY for checkout)
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UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

- March 29 3rd Grade In-Person Learning begins
- March 31st Picture Retake Day
- April 5 5th grade In-Person Learning begins
- April 12-16 Spring Break, no school
- April 19-23 BSD quarantine week, All students remote



For more information and important dates please follow this link to our Somerset PTSA: [Link to Somerset PTSA](#)

Photo of Week

Return of 4th grade Hybrid Students using the 143rd Ave SE drop-off

