

Somerset Families,

Happy Mother's Day to the moms in our Somerset community. I hope you are celebrated in special ways this weekend.

**Student safety is the highest priority at Somerset**, and I need to address two concerns that have come up related to our drop off and pick up process to support the safety of all students.

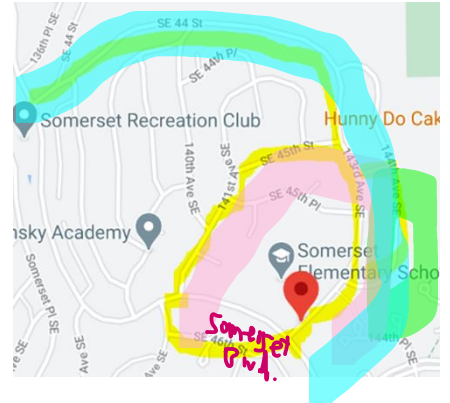
**1. Students arriving late to school (after 9:05 and after 1:05)**

- If your child(ren) is arriving to school late, please bring them to the main office doors and use the window to inform the office that students have arrived. We will ensure health check is complete and welcome them in the building.
- If your child(ren) is arriving to school late without an adult, remind them to use the main doors by the office. Please call the school office to inform us that your child(ren) is arriving late, so we know to expect them. Please note, crossing guard supervision ends shortly after the tardy bell rings.

We currently have 16 adults supporting arrival for each session to ensure students arrive safely and have their health check complete. Adults remain at the crosswalk and at each drop off point for a few minutes after the tardy bell rings. If children arrive after the start of the school bell (9:05 or 12:05) we need parents to help support the safe arrival of their child. In addition, we call all families who have not notified us an absence when a student does not show up for a class session.

**2. Grade 3-5 drop off on 143rd Ave.**

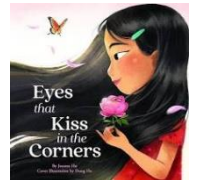
- Please refrain from U-turns in the drop off zone during our pick-up and drop-off times. There are at least 3 loops that will allow you to return in the direction you wish to go without making a U-turn. The U-turn blocks traffic when congested and significantly decreases our visibility of students in the sidewalks on both sides of street.
- Please be considerate of neighbors and leave the entrance to their driveways open while you wait.



**Asian American Pacific Islander Heritage Month at Somerset**

Excited to share the following events and details:

- Somerset Students will be exposed to a new text each week highlighting a different culture and theme from the AAPI region. This week's text is *Eyes that Kiss in the Corners* by Joanna Ho.
- Author and actress Sheetal Sheth Visits Somerset.



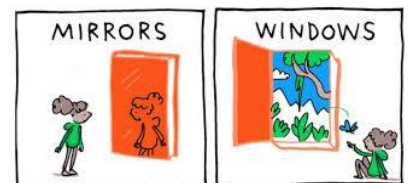
- Live virtual classroom event to share her book, *Always Anjali*, on May 14th.
- Family Engagement Live Event: k-2 and 3-5 sessions on May 20th.

- Share your story: We have invited all families who identify as Asian American or Pacific Islander to share their story. We have provided a template (attached to email) to guide you and a Flip grid link if you prefer <https://flipgrid.com/1c704f3e>. Please submit either or both, by May 20th so we can display at our school wide event on May 26th.



- **Outdoor, School-wide Event** for all families is May 26<sup>th</sup> from 4:30-7:00. To ensure we are following safety guidelines and providing a socially distanced safe event, we are asking families to register for a 30-minute time slot using the Sign-Up Genius link coming out next week.

This month of celebration is for *all* students. Students are discovering their place in school and the world through the text we share. Sometimes books are a mirror, reflecting their own lives, and others a window, giving them a peek into someone else's. Our hope is that our celebration will be an enlightening and memorable experience for all superstars as they are affirmed in their unique identity and learn about the beautiful diversity within our community.



In partnership!

*Cathy Eldred*

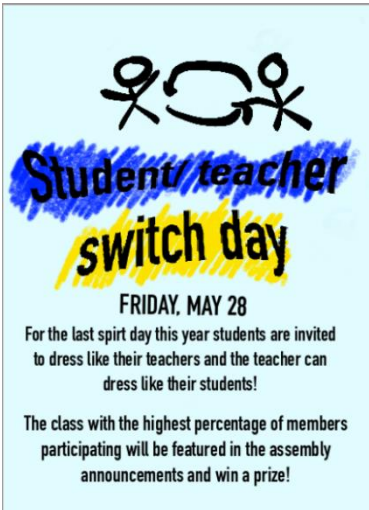


## Somerset Elementary Information



### Kindergarten Enrollment for 2021-22

If you know of a family who has an upcoming kindergarten student, please remind them that kindergarten registration is open now and they need to complete the “New Student Enrollment Packet”. The more we know about our upcoming enrollment, the better we can staff our classrooms. **New Student Enrollment Packet:** [English \(PDF\)](#) / [Spanish \(PDF\)](#) / [Simplified Chinese \(PDF\)](#)



### May Spirit Day

May’s student council spirit day will be “Student/Teacher Switch Day.” It’s scheduled for Friday, May 28<sup>th</sup>. The class that has the greatest percentage of students wearing teacher outfits (and teachers dressing like students) will be recognized in the assembly announcements and receive a small prize.

### Principal Birthday Lunches – 12:30-1:00



May’s Birthday lunch celebration will be Wednesday the 26<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. Students with a May 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](mailto: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.

### Somerset Library Wednesday Check-out Dates-Only Three More Weeks

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.

**Check-out Wednesdays: May 12<sup>th</sup>, May 19<sup>th</sup>, May 26<sup>th</sup> (last day for checkout)**

### From BSD...Looking ahead to Fall 2021-22 School Year

While we are focused on a strong finish to this school year, with both in-person and remote learning options, the BSD team continues planning for the 2021-22 school year.

We anticipate in-person learning to be the primary learning model for the 2021-22 school year. We will continue to follow recommended safety guidelines as students and staff return to school communities and look forward to seeing more students in person.

We anticipate classrooms and physical distancing to be based upon 3 feet, which allows our students to be in full in-person classes, pre-K through 12<sup>th</sup> and the Transitions Program. Staffing for schools in the fall will be based upon this assumption.

We are also planning that schools will serve meals, including lunch for all grade levels. In addition, bus routes will be scheduled to operate for full-day, in-person learning at our schools during the 2021-22 school year.

Early release Wednesdays will continue, providing opportunity for our staff for professional development, collaboration with colleagues and professional time for educators.

## From BSD...BSD Mathematics - Philosophy and Evolution

Please join us on May 19 to hear about the work in BSD to modernize and enhance our current P-12 math system and to have your voice shared. We will be joined by Dr. Ivan Duran, Superintendent of Bellevue School District; Dr. Phil Daro, leading international mathematics education researcher and one of the main authors of the Common Core State Standards; and Dr. Paul Conley, Mathematics Curriculum Developer in Bellevue School District.

The over-arching theme of our conversation together will be:

- Why we need to modernize and enhance our current P-12 math curriculum and program
- How other high-performing countries and school districts have made changes in mathematics to put students at the forefront and how BSD can lead the country in mathematics
- How BSD can give each and every one of our students a global and national advantage to make them more competitive for college and career aspirations
- The work happening right now in BSD and work moving forward to continue to modernize and enhance our P-12 math system

There will be time at the end of the meeting for Q&A.

Parent and community voice and support will be critical to the success of ensuring EVERY student in BSD is equipped to reach their college and career aspirations they want. This is meant to be the first of many opportunities to strengthen our shared vision and collaboration between our Bellevue Community and Bellevue School District. [Click here to learn more.](#)

## UPCOMING IMPORTANT DATES

May	Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) Heritage Month
May 3-7	Somerset Teacher and Staff Appreciation Week
May 14	Author visit to Somerset Classrooms
May 19	BSD Mathematics Community Event 6:30-7:45 Zoom event
May 20	Author family night via Teams, times TBA
May 20	New to Advanced Learning Program-Information session via Teams 6-7 pm
<b>May 26</b>	<b>Somerset School-Wide, In-person, Outdoor Event 4:30-7:00 (30 minute sessions, sign up link coming)</b> <b><i>Sharing the Pages of Asian Stories: past, present, &amp; future!</i></b>
May 29	School Spirit Day-student teacher switch day

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

## Photo (s) of Week-

Ms. Adams receiving some teacher appreciation!



Garden fun at recess!

