

Somerset Families,

Happy Mid-Autumn Festival. October is here which means we are back in the full swing of school routines. It has been impressive to see the way our Somerset community has adapted to remote learning and powered through technology challenges. Teachers have learned a lot about students and are enjoying each individual personality. Students have had the opportunity to complete assessments to help their teachers better understand their current math and literacy skills. This data informs the teacher’s instruction, small learning groups, and identifies students who may need additional supports for unfinished learning standards. We look forward to the month ahead!



### Assemblies: Two in October! October 7 & 21



The first Wednesday of the month will continue to be our designated day for school wide assemblies. The assembly will start at 9:40 and last about 20-25 minutes. The link to the assembly will be in student calendars and posted on the “announcements” section of Teams. Each month during the assembly we will highlight special talents from our school community. We

invite your child to share their own hidden talent with us. Simply click on the following link to record a video of \*your\* talent and a chance to see yourself featured in a future assembly: [Hidden Talents Flipgrid](#)

We will also be hosting a special assembly on October 21<sup>st</sup> to celebrate Unity Day. Unity Day is celebrated nationwide to stand united against bullying. Students are encouraged to wear orange showing their commitment to unity. Our assembly will start at 9:40 and will be a virtual recording of a Tap Root Theater’s live skit on them importance of recognizing, reporting and refusing bullying.



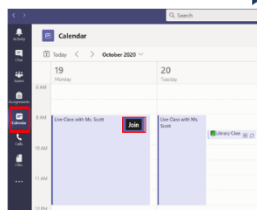
### Principal Parent Connect

We had a successful first virtual Principal Parent connect yesterday and will continue to host these sessions the first Thursday of each month. We had approximately 40 parents attend and received positive feedback. Families heard from Ms. Schuyler, our school counselor, Ms. Scott, our Instructional Technology and Curriculum Lead and were introduced to our office staff. There was time set aside for families to share highlights and ask questions. Challenges families shared was the amount of screen time for our youngest students, initial tech issues and that students miss “in person” social experiences. Celebrations included the remote platform allows parents to have a window into their child’s learning, live instruction is going well, and it is evident that teachers are working hard to engage their students, and routines are being established. In addition, typing skills are improving! Pictured below are some helpful technology tips that Ms. Scott shared during her presentation. We hope you find them helpful.

#### Teams Big 3 - Calendar

1. Click calendar on the left side toolbar
2. Click join!

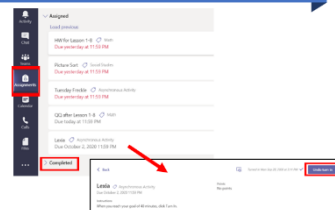
- Don't miss!
- Whole group live class
  - Small group meetings
  - Specialist class



#### Teams Big 3 - Assignments

1. Click assignments on the left toolbar
2. Select the class you need to complete work for
3. Click an assignment
4. Upload work in needed
5. Click turn in!

- Don't miss!
- Asynchronous activities
  - Required work
  - Click turn in!



**Quick Tips!**

**Turning off notifications**

1. Click picture in top right corner
2. Click settings, click notifications on the left
3. Select which notifications you want to turn off

**Troubleshoot steps**

- Log in and out of the program
- Hard restart – hold down power button
- Contact teacher or help desk
  - [parenthelp@bsd405.org](mailto:parenthelp@bsd405.org)

**1-1 chat and call**

- Build SEL
- Contact teachers
- Partner with teacher to monitor
- Parents can download the Teams app on their mobile device

**Quick Tips!**

**Turning off notifications**

- **More > Settings > Notifications.** From there tap **Open settings** to access your iOS settings for Teams. Then tap **Notifications > Allow notifications** to determine how you want to view Teams notifications.

**Troubleshoot steps**

- Log in and out of the program
- Double click the home button, swipe up to close apps
- Restart the device
- Contact teacher or help desk
  - [parenthelp@bsd405.org](mailto:parenthelp@bsd405.org)

**1-1 chat and call**

- Build SEL
- Contact teachers
- Partner with teacher to monitor
- Check in with students at the end of day
- Set boundaries – device out of bedroom at night

## BSD Technology support

### Technology Support

Tech support is available Monday through Friday! Visit <https://bsd405.org/techsupport> for details. For self-guided support, explore the list of common questions and resources. Information on BSD Technology Centers is on the BSD [website](#)



### Curbside Technology Support

BSD's Technology Department offers curbside service for students and families who need general tech support for issues that are difficult to resolve via email or phone. More information is available on the district's [website](#).

### Tech Centers at Sammamish and Newport Closed October 9

The Tech Centers at Sammamish High School and Newport High School will be closed on Friday, October 9, a non-school day. Student and family technology support is still available online and by phone. Visit <https://bsd405.org/techsupport> for details.

## Changes in Attendance Coding

Beginning next week, there will be a change to the coding of your student's absences. At the beginning of this school year, we continued with the use of the Remote Learning Absence (RLA) coding, that was utilized last spring when students were absent from a virtual class. Use of the RLA coding aligned with the guidance from the State, however this was a temporary provision to be utilized up to October 2. Thus, starting on Monday, October 5, absences from remote learning will be marked excused or unexcused and we will be using the attendance codes that we have used in the past.

If your student is absent please contact our attendance office at [somersetattendance@bsd405.org](mailto:somersetattendance@bsd405.org)

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



October Birthday lunch celebration will be on October 27<sup>th</sup> at 12:30. Students with an October birthday will receive a Teams invite through their student email accounts from Ruth Embayer, our office manager, the Monday 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.

- ★ Sept. 25 – August
- ★ Sept. 29 – September
- ★ October 27 – October
- ★ November 24 – November
- ★ December 15 – December
- ★ January 26 – January
- ★ February 23 – February
- ★ March 30 – March
- ★ April 27 – April
- ★ May 25 – May
- ★ June 15 – June and July

### **Advanced Learning Testing**

The BSD Advanced Learning Department will be accepting testing applications to determine students in need of advanced learning opportunities beginning Oct. 12, 2020. Applications for advanced learning testing for students in grades 1-4 and 6-11 will be available online beginning **October 12, 2020**. District families interested in applying for testing should submit an application before the **November 30, 2020 deadline** at [www.bsd405.org/apply-for-AL](http://www.bsd405.org/apply-for-AL). Parents of BSD Kindergarten and 5th grade students do not need to apply, as these students will be considered for advanced learning services through the Kindergarten and 5th grade screening processes. Services provided for students in need include the following.

- Domain-specific services in Literacy and Mathematics (K-1)
- Domain-specific services in Literacy, Mathematics, and Nonverbal Ability (2-4 during 2020-21, and 2-6 during the 2021-22 school year)
- Self-contained services in Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies (2-12)
- Differentiated services in Literacy, Mathematics, Science and Social Studies for students identified for self-contained services, who choose to attend their neighborhood school (2-12)

To learn more about Advanced Learning Services, please visit <https://bsd405.org/services/advanced-learning/>.

### **Return to Hybrid**

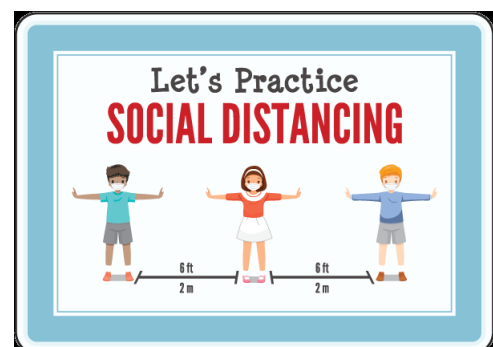
Any decisions made about the timing for Bellevue School District to return to hybrid is under the guidance of King County Health Department. Newly updated information related to in-person learning Health and Safety Protocols are posted on the district website.

<https://bsd405.org/services/health/covid-19-health-and-safety/> In the coming weeks, we will be sharing specific details regarding Somerset's plans.



A few important ways you can help your child be more prepared for when they return to the school building:

- **Mask** will be required for all staff and students to wear while at school. Please spend time now teaching your child the right to wear a mask and why it is important. Have your child wear a mask each day and build their stamina for longer amounts of time to increase their comfortability
- **Hand washing** times will be scheduled throughout the day in the classroom. Start practicing this important skill at home now. <https://youtu.be/DDicJ-fSUgg> or <https://youtu.be/x3QUtQQp8W4>
- **Social distancing** in the classroom and throughout the building will be expected and enforced. Talk to your child about how providing space is a safety measure. Practice social distancing and polite ways to remind others that they are too close.



**BSD Drive-thru flu vaccination clinics**

**COMING TO ODLE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND NEWPORT HIGH SCHOOL NEXT WEEK! REGISTER NOW**

ROLL DOWN YOUR WINDOW, ROLL UP YOUR SLEEVE! NO CAR? NO PROBLEM! WALK-UPS – BIKE-UPS WITH APPOINTMENTS- EVERYONE is welcome! Students, employees, families and neighbors (\*over the age of 4 years) See attached fliers for more information.

Registration is required here: <https://schedule.seattlevna.com/home/c7c8a4ed-45fc-ea11-a815-000d3a31a6ee>

Monday, October 5, 2020, 10:00 – 6:00 – Odle Middle School

Tuesday, October 6, 2020, 10:00 – 6:00 – Odle Middle School

Wednesday, October 7, 2020, 10:00 – 6:00 – Newport High School

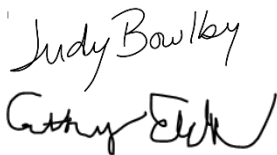
Thursday, October 8, 2020, 9:00 – 5:00 – Newport High School

**OCTOBER IMPORTANT DATES**

- 7<sup>th</sup> School Wide Assembly 9:40
- 9<sup>th</sup> Professional Learning Day for teachers, No School for students
- 12<sup>th</sup> Early Release Day for Elementary Parent Teacher conferences
- 13<sup>th</sup> Early Release Day for Elementary Parent Teacher conferences
- 14<sup>th</sup> Early Release Day for Elementary Parent Teacher conferences
- 21<sup>st</sup> Unity Day Assembly Wear Orange

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

You and your partnership matter,



Principals

Somerset Elementary

