



Our mission is to support the education, health, and welfare of each and every child at Somerset Elementary School. As part of the Washington State PTA, we are a nonprofit membership association bringing together the home, school, and community on behalf of our children.

PTSA / School Calendar - Important Dates and Events

- Monday, Mar 22 - 4th Grade Back to School
- Wednesday, Mar 24 - Library Books Pick-up
- Wednesday, Mar 24 - March Birthday with Principals 12:30-1pm
- Wednesday, Mar 24 - Parenthood Development Talk 6-7pm
- Friday, Mar 26 - School Spirit Day/Sport's Day
- Monday, Mar 29 - 3rd Grade Back to School
- Wednesday, Mar 31 - Picture Retake 12- 4pm
- Monday, Apr 5 - 5th Grade Back to School
- Monday - Friday, April 12-16 Spring Break, no school
- Monday - Friday, April 19-23 BSD quarantine week, All students remote

[View PTSA Full Calendar](#)

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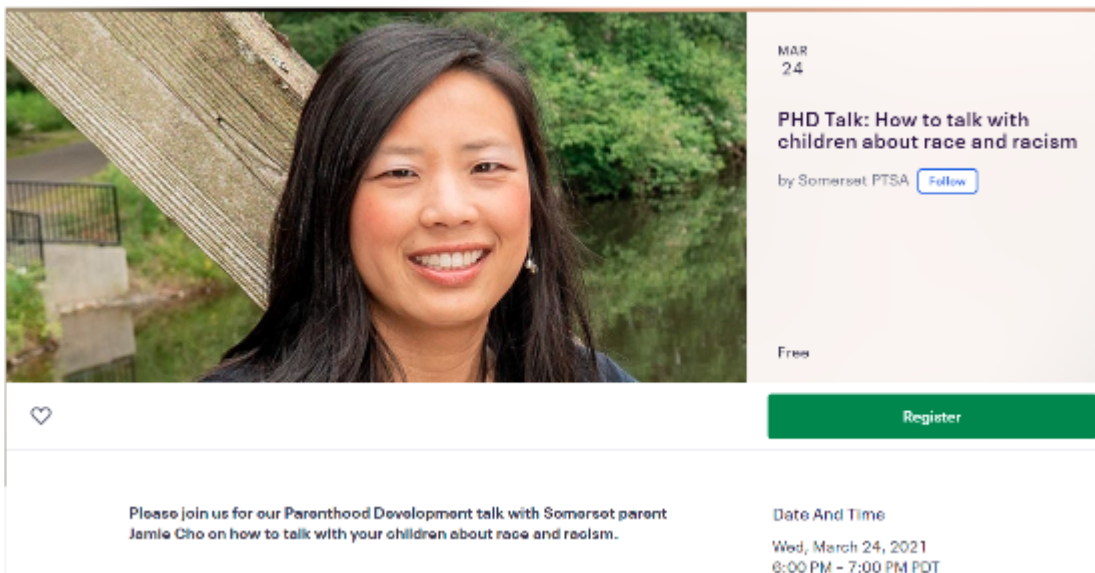
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PTSA NEWS



The screenshot shows a Facebook event post. On the left is a photo of Jamie Cho, a woman with long dark hair, smiling. To the right of the photo, the event details are listed: 'MAR 24', 'PHD Talk: How to talk with children about race and racism', 'by Somerset PTSA' with a 'Follow' button, and 'Free'. Below the photo is a heart icon and a green 'Register' button. At the bottom of the post, there is a description: 'Please join us for our Parenthood Development talk with Somerset parent Jamie Cho on how to talk with your children about race and racism.' and the date and time: 'Date And Time Wed, March 24, 2021 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM PDT'.

Parenthood Development Talk

Please join us for our Parenthood Development talk with Somerset parent Jamie Cho on how to talk with your children about race and racism.

This conversation will center race and how to talk with children and answer their questions about racial differences and racism. Children’s understanding of racial categories develop early and are influenced by the narratives offered by the adults in their lives. It is vital that adults are having conversations with children as they try to make sense of what they are observing in their family, neighborhoods, schools, and communities. Through these conversations, families have the power to raise a generation of critical thinkers who strive

for social justice and equity.

Jamie Cho is a parent educator at two cooperative preschools through Seattle Central College and Bellevue College. She holds a Ph.D. in special education from U.C. Berkeley and her research has focused on cultural beliefs around parenting. Jamie has worked previously as an early interventionist with young children with autism spectrum disorders as well as served as an educational researcher at UCLA and teacher educator at California State Universities.

This event will be held online [Mar 24th 6-7 pm](#). Please register [HERE](#) if you want to join this event.

Lifetouch Pictures Pick up

After last week's picture picking up, we still have some picture packages left. For the left picture packages:

- 4th grade photos will be sent home on [Monday, March 22nd](#)
- 3rd grade photos will be sent home on the [Monday, March 29th](#)
- 5th grade classes and all virtual classes can stop by the office window for photos.

Sibling photos will be sent home with 3rd and 4th graders on the [22nd or 29th](#).

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

We will **not** have 3rd and 4th grade photos available at the window as they have already been distributed to the teachers.

Picture Retake Day

Picture Retake Day with Lifetouch is scheduled for [Wednesday, March 31st from 12-4pm](#). This is also an opportunity for Somerset students who haven't taken their picture yet to come by to get their photo taken, even if you are not planning to purchase the prints. Their picture will also be used for the yearbook and student identification cards.

Students who want to have their picture retaken are asked to bring the complete Lifetouch picture packet back to retake day.

Registration: Please sign up for a slot using the sign up genius link [HERE](#) Please be certain to put your child's name/teacher/grade in the comments.

Ordering: We encourage families to pre-order pictures

online <https://mylifetouch.com> using New Code **EVT8G6T4M** . Please see [picture retake flyer](#) for picture ordering information.

Location: Somerset Elementary School (*under the covered basketball area* outside, in the back of the school)

Safety Protocols: We thank you in advance for following these:

- This will be an outside event. Dress for the weather.
- Students may be accompanied by 1 parent only. We ask that students go straight to the picture-taking area near the playground in the back of the school, following physical/social distancing guidelines. Staff will be available to assist students through the line. When your student has taken their picture, we ask that you do not stay on the school grounds/playground.
- All students and staff will be masked at all times—except for the short time that the student removes the mask to take a picture.
- Physical distancing is required.

Please note that students are not required to attend/participate. For any families that do not feel comfortable participating, please submit your student's picture for the yearbook following these guidelines:

- Take a headshot of your student in front of a white background
- Take the picture from the waist up
- Use lighting from the front, no backlighting
- Add the following information when sending the picture: first name and last name of your student, grade and teacher name

Please send your picture to our yearbook chair Ana Howard at yearbooks.somerset@gmail.com by April 15th.



March Spirit Day - Sports Day

Somerset's March spirit day will be Sports Day! It will take place on [Friday, March 26th](#). Wear gear from your favorite sport, club, or activity. The Somerset class that has the

greatest percentage of participants dressed in sports gear will be featured in the assembly announcements and win a fun prize. Have fun and show your school spirit!

SCHOOL NEWS

Principal Birthday lunches

March Birthday lunch celebration will be on **March 24th at 12:30**. Students with a March 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.



3rd, 4th and 5th Grade Back to School Date

We are excited to welcome students and staff for in-person learning in a half day cohort model with the following staggered start dates:

- 4th Grade: **Monday, March 22**
- 3rd Grade: **Monday March 29**
- 5th Grade: **Monday, April 5**

For 3-5 Grade in person learning schedule, please see the chart below.

- Grades k-2 are in person Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday except for 4/19-4/23 quarantine 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.

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	

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.

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. If you have any questions about Talking Points, please contact Amy Scott at scotta@bsd405.org.



Jubilee Reach Donation Drive

The COVID-19 pandemic has caused untold suffering for millions of families across America. Right here in our own Bellevue community, many families have struggled to make ends meet. The financial toll of the pandemic shutdown has made securing food and essential hygiene items increasingly difficult for many families in Bellevue. As a result, more families face food insecurity and a lack of needed household items each day. We can make a difference here at Somerset. [All through the month of March \(March 3rd- 30th\)](#), the Somerset Student Council will sponsor a drive to collect donations of groceries and hygiene items to help Jubilee REACH assist Bellevue families in need. Please consider donating the following items to help needy families in our community.

- *Baby wipes*
- *Diapers, size newborn & size 1 to 6*
- *Paper Towels*
- *Cooking oil (large size only)*
- *Bulk rice*
- *Bulk pinto beans*
- *Quart size zip-lock bags & Gallon size zip-lock bags*
- *Laundry soap, pods*
- *Dish soap*
- *Cat food & Cat litter*
- *Dog food*

You can bring your donation in to the Somerset office during school hours on Wednesday or Friday. You can also drop donations from 9:30 – 11:00 or 1:30 – 3:00 on Monday, Tuesday, or Thursday. Thank you so much for your support!

BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Submit Your Family Engagement Survey

We are halfway through the annual Family Engagement Survey, and we want to hear from you! The Family Engagement Office seeks to understand if families across the district feel informed, supported and empowered to contribute to their students' success. It is a district

priority to create long-lasting partnerships between families and schools for better student outcomes. Surveys were sent to families via email and are available in multiple languages. Please complete them by [March 30, 2021](#) to ensure that your voice is heard.

[LEARN MORE.](#)

***Let's Talk!* with BSD**

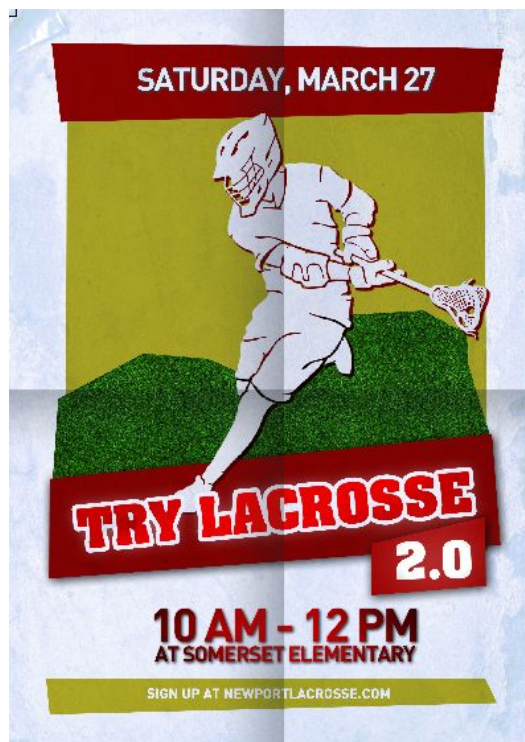
BSD utilizes *Let's Talk!* to exchange messages with families. Find messaging options on BSD [website](#).

Please contact staff at your student's school about schedules, attendance and any other school-specific questions or concerns. Visit <https://bsd405.org> and select **Schools** in the top menu to find your school.

COMMUNITY NEWS

BACK BY POPULAR DEMAND ... Somerset's Free Sport Event on Sat. 3/27

Over 50 families came out to enjoy the sport of Lacrosse on Feb. 27th. The Somerset PTSA is pleased to host another free outdoor activity for K-5 students in cooperation with Newport Lacrosse. Gather your friends, bring a mask, and come play Lacrosse on [Saturday Mar. 27th from 10am-12pm](#) at the Somerset Soccer Field. No experience or equipment is necessary. Coaches will be on hand to lead the kids in fun and games. Please register through newportlacrosse.com.





UW Summer Registration is Open

UW Summer Youth Programs is excited to announce remote enrichment courses for 4th and 5th grade students who want to keep learning over summer break.

- Debate for Kids
- Explore the Ecosystems of Washington State

Visit UW [website](#) for registration information and course details!



Seeking Tye PTSA Elected Officers for 2021-22

The PTSA Nominating Committee is actively seeking candidates for the positions of Elected PTSA Officers for the upcoming 2021-22 school year. We are looking for volunteers to build a great team at Tye for next year!

The elected officer positions that comprise our Tye PTSA Executive Committee are as follows: (Most positions may be filled by 1-2 candidates). The job descriptions for each position can be found [Here](#).

- President
- Co-President
- Secretary
- Treasurer
- Vice President – Ways & Means (Fundraising)
- Vice-President – Programs (Clubs/Activities)
- Vice President – Communications

If you know of anyone who is interested and is willing to dedicate some of their time for a great cause... our students, staff & community, we would love to know! Or if you would like to be considered yourself, please take the time to share your name with us through the [online form](#).

Tales of Quarantine

[Mission InspirEd](#)'s upcoming event is the [Tales of Quarantine](#), a free nationwide initiative challenging students ages 6-18 to showcase COVID's impact through a wide variety of artistic expressions. The competition will span from [February 22nd through March 21st](#) and cover three categories of art: Media, Visual, and Writing. Students are encouraged to submit an original piece of artwork that showcases their creativity and skills, and can win up to \$1,000 and be featured on the news. Learn more at [missioninspired.org/toq](#)! View attached flyer for more information.



**TALES OF
QUARANTINE**
A CREATIVE INITIATIVE FOR AGES 6-18

Showcase COVID's impact through a variety of artistic expressions, from poetry to film to →

WIN
\$1000+
Get featured in a 360 interactive gallery, the news, & more!

SUBMIT YOUR TALES FROM 2/22-3/21. VISIT:
[missioninspired.org/toq](#)

The flyer features an illustration of three people wearing face masks and engaged in creative activities: one is painting, one is writing, and one is using a camera. The background is a vibrant purple.



Free Weekend Chess Lessons

[425 Kids Chess](http://425kidschess.com), a WA non-profit run by BSD high school and middle school students, is providing weekly free chess lessons starting **March 21st**. Chess is a fun, creative activity that teaches patience and critical thinking skills. These lessons are for beginners of all ages, teaching them openings, endgames, tactics, and more!

Learn more and register at: 425kidschess.com. Feel free to contact us at: 425kidschess@gmail.com

King County: COVID-19 Reopening Phase 2

King County is currently in Phase 2 of the state's Healthy Washington Roadmap to Recovery Plan. As of March 15, there are [88 positive COVID-19 cases per 100,000 people in King County in the past 14 days](#). Gov. Jay Inslee has said King County will move to Phase 3 on March 22. For more details, visit <https://coronavirus.wa.gov/>

Directory / Links

Executive Committee

President: Harry(Qinghui) Liu & Yuki Yang
Secretary: Sandy Zhang
VP Programs: Andrea Wohlan
Ways&Means: Yan Zhou
Co-VP Communications: Demi Wang & Peggy Wang
Treasurer: Xiaohong Quan & Lily Zhu

Somerset PTSA

Email:Somersetptsa@gmail.com

Newsletter

Submission:Somersetptsa@gmail.com



Shop at Amazon log in [HERE](#) and select 'Somerset Elementary PTSA' and Amazon Smile donates to Somerset PTSA. Or click <https://smile.amazon.com> for your purchase.

Or install the Amazon app onto your phone. In the main menu of app(=), find 'Settings'. tap on 'Amazon Smile' and follow the instructions to turn on Amazon Smile

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.

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset PTSA BOD Meeting Minutes](#)

[Somerset Elementary School Website](#)

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BELLEVUE
PTSA COUNCIL

One Voice • One Community • Together



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Our mailing address is:

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