

Mar 27th, 2021

Unit # 020575

[View complete email in your browser](#)



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 29 - 3rd Grade Back to School

Wednesday, Mar 31 - Picture Retake 12- 4pm

Monday, Apr 5 - 5th Grade Back to School

Monday - Friday, Apr 12-16 Spring Break, no school

Monday - Friday, Apr 19-23 BSD quarantine week, All students remote

Wednesday - Apr 21 - Somerset PTSA MOD Pizza Fundraising

[View PTSA Full Calendar](#)

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PTSA NEWS

Lifetouch Pictures Pick up

We still have some picture packages left. For the left picture packages:

- 3rd grade photos will be sent home on the [Monday, March 29th](#)
- 5th grade and virtual families are welcome to stop by the office window for photos next week.

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

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)

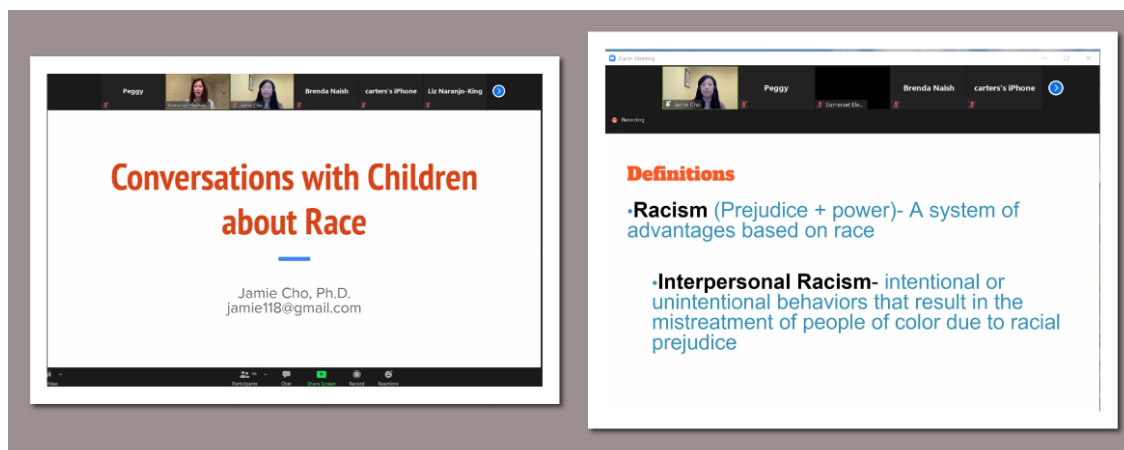
Safety Protocols: We thank you in advance for following these:

- 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.



Recap of PhD Talk "How to talk with children about race and racism"

A big thank you to Jamie Cho for talking to us about race and racism and showing us how we can have meaningful conversations with our children and be part of the change for a

better world without racism.

Here are the books and websites Jamie recommended during her presentation.

Children's book list:

- [Intersection Allies](#)
- [Another](#)
- [Water Protectors](#)
- [Skin Again](#)
- [Separate is Never Equal](#)
- [Speak Up](#)
- [Thank you Omu](#)
- [Nya's Long Walk and Long Walk to Water \(similar story but for different ages\)](#)
- [Eyes that Kiss in the Corners](#)
- [Kamala and Maya's Big Idea](#)
- [Malala's Magic Pencil](#)

*The school has purchased those children's books to share with you. The books should be here by **Monday 3/29**. Please stop by our school office window and choose a book. Our hope is it supports conversations you are having or want to have with your child. We have multiple copies of the following titles and it will be on a first come, first serve basis.*

Adult book list

- [The Talk](#)
- [Why Are All the Black Kids Sitting Together in the Cafeteria?](#)
- [When They Call You A Terrorist: A Black Lives Matter Memoir](#)
- [Me and White Supremacy](#)
- [Biased](#)

Some additional resources:

- [Embrace Race](#)
- [FOCS](#)
- [Books for Littles](#)
- [A Thousand Worlds](#)
- [Asian Americans \(PBS\)](#)

Social Justice organizations:

- [Social Justice Organizations in Washington State](#)
- <https://www.standagainsthatred.org/stories>
- [Asian Americans Advancing Justice | AAJC \(advancingjustice-aajc.org\)](#)
- [OCA Seattle](#)

For those who were not able to attend the PHD talk, here is the recording for you to view at your convenience. Please click [Here](#) and use passcode: z3T^Rve5 for recording.

SCHOOL NEWS

3rd 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:

- 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.



| 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 4th Grade In-person | March 23 4th Grade In-person | March 24 All Remote | March 25 4th Grade In-person | March 26 3-5 remote |
| | | | | 3 rd Grade Async | 3 rd Grade Async |
| | March 29 4th Grade In-person | March 30 4th Grade In-person | March 31 All Remote | April 1 4th Grade In-person | April 2 4th 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 4th Grade In-person | April 6 4th Grade In-person | April 7 All Remote | April 8 4th Grade In-person | April 9 4th 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

2021 BSD Virtual STEM Fair

Join BSD [April 5 – 9](#) for the perfect opportunity to learn about various STEM

fields from industry innovators and academia. Students from across Washington are invited to this extraordinary week-long event. The STEM Fair is hosted by students, for students. Registration is necessary for this fun, free, and all virtual event! [More Information](#) and [Register Now](#)



Submit Your Family Engagement Survey

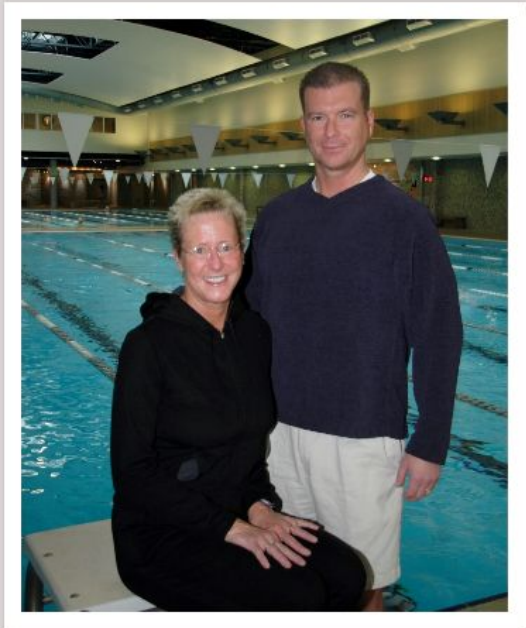
We are halfway through the annual Family Engagement Survey, and we want to hear from you! The Family Engagement Office seeks to understand if families across the district feel informed, supported and empowered to contribute to their students' success. It is a district priority to create long-lasting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



Joanie and Tim Adkisson



Joanie is pictured with her siblings Ken and Jill. Joanie is in the middle.

In Memory of Joanie Andrews

Among Somerset Elementary's First Students and An Accomplished Lifelong Swimmer

SPLASHForward received a generous donation from longtime Bellevue and Somerset resident Tim Adkisson in memory of his wife Joan. The late Joanie (Andrews) Adkisson graduated from Somerset Elementary in 1975 and was one of the first students to attend the then-newly established school.

Joanie's parents, Jack and Janet Andrews, felt it was important for their kids to be safe around the water. "Our family was boating, and it was a safety measure to make sure they didn't drown," says Jack. They took their kids to swim lessons early on, with Joanie in the stroller watching her older siblings Jill and Ken in the pool. At age five Joanie joined a swim team and began competing in the 8 & under division. Swimming became a way of life, and a way for Jack and Janet to create a healthy family lifestyle. The Andrews family frequented Somerset Recreation Club, forging friendships and connections within their community, and some of Joanie's team records there still stand. Joanie later led the Newport High School girls swim and dive team to win the State Championship for four consecutive years from 1979 – 1983.

Joanie's story speaks to the importance and impact of a public community pool. From water safety to community connection, exercise to competition, recovery to well-being, access to water has played a central role in Joanie's life.

When Tim reflects on what would have excited Joanie about SPLASHForward, he recalls a time when a little girl was on the pool deck and was so excited to meet Joanie. The girl had just recently broke one of Joanie's records at Somerset Recreation Club and was overjoyed to meet the person who held the record before her. It's this continuity and access for young kids to develop their water safety and love of swimming that really inspired Joanie. Tim's gift honors Joanie's love for the water by helping establish a world class public aquatics and wellness facility in Bellevue to benefit the greater community.

See the full story and learn more about [SPLASHForward](#) on their [Website](#).



Teaching Teck 4 Kids

TeachingTech4Kids is an educational non-profit organization that hosts live classes relating to technology. Our Prospective Classes include:

- Typing
- Scratch
- Intro to Python
- Playing with turtle on Python

Please see our [classes flyer Here](#). Our mission is to help as many elementary and middle school kids as possible. This means that our classes will be free of charge. We want all kids to have the same learning opportunity!

Please fill out this survey : <https://forms.gle/hSGTXa1FmfmhnmC8> because it will help us come up with more classes and help our organization grow! If you have any questions, email us at teachingtech4kids@gmail.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!

Help others + Find out your blood type

Lauren Chen's (Newport student)

BLOOD DRIVE

May 22 to June 6

Bloodworks NW Bellevue | Seattle | Lynnwood
Everett | North Seattle

Questions? Call or text Lauren: 425-749-1415
Mention Lauren during appt check in

Must be 16
Register at bloodworksnw.org
pick your time slot + date
only takes 15 minutes

Donated blood is shipped to and used in Seattle area hospitals within 48 hours. Your gift makes a difference!

Bloodworks NW's Blood Drive - May 22nd to June 6th

Did you know 1,000 donors are needed a day? Please consider donating. Donated blood is shipped to and used in Seattle area hospitals within 48 hours. Your gift makes a difference.

Directory / Links

Executive Committee

President: Harry(Qinghui) Liu & Yuki Yang
Secretary: Sandy Zhang

amazon.com

SchoolRewards
Fundraise while you shop

Shop at Amazon log in [HERE](#) and select 'Somerset Elementary PTSA' and Amazon Smile donates to Somerset PTSA. Or

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

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset PTSA BOD Meeting Minutes](#)

[Somerset Elementary School Website](#)

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.



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BELLEVUE
PTSA COUNCIL

One Voice + One Community + Together



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