



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 NEWS

PTSA / School Calendar - Upcoming Dates and Events

Friday, Sep 25th - Passport Club

Friday, Sep 25th - Ice Cream Social



Fall Fundraising Drive 2020 - Latest Update

We officially started the Fall Fundraising Drive 2020 on 09/10/2020. As of 09/11/2020, we have already raised **\$21010**. This is a fantastic start. Thank you to all Somerset families who have already donated to the Fall Fundraising Drive.

We invite all families to participate in this campaign, because your contribution—no matter the amount—makes a big difference to our children especially this year!

OUR CHILDREN ARE COUNTING ON US.



Questions? For more information about our Fall Fundraising Drive please check out [here](#) or email us at somersetpts@gmail.com



Thank you all for all the amazing pictures. We have made a video for the first day of school.

Please continuously share your children's photos to communications.somersetpts@gmail.com, so that we can create more and more videos to bring you joy!



Welcome back to school for a fantastic journey ahead. We used to meet our parents in-person, have coffee together, and hand out welcome package in-person at about this time. For safety, we will be doing this virtually. Please visit our [PTSA Website](#) for the Welcome Packet:

[2020-2021 School Year Welcome Letter from PTSA President](#)

[Calendar 2020-2021](#)

[Somerset PTSA Membership Flyer](#)

[Traffic FAQ](#)

[5th Grade Request Letter](#)

[PTSA Introduction Video](#)

Join Somerset PTSA

A PTSA membership is an investment in your child's future. The more members we have, the louder our PTSA voice will be in advocating for our children with local and state legislature. Our kids are worth the investment and a strong PTSA illustrates our community support to our school and children. Additionally your Memberships ensures that you will receive our PTSA eNews weekly. Certain PTSA activities, such as Chess Club requires a PTSA membership. We are an award winning PTSA and have earned the 100% membership award from WSPTA three years in a row. Your participation is vital to retain this award. *[Join us now!](#)*

Please click [here](#) to join or renew your membership!

After School Activities Information

The PTSA coordinates enrichment programs such as after school activities for the student community. We typically offer three sessions: Fall, winter and spring, usually for 8-10 week periods. In 2020-2021, we will offer modified programs based on health advisories. Classes/clubs are offered by outside vendors who handle registration and payment independently. Please know that registration is on a first-come first-serve basis and registration information is published in our weekly eNews, on our website and on Facebook prior to registration being opened.

After school activities will be highlighted in the [COMMUNITY NEWS](#) section. Please stay tuned as more information will become available soon.



Somerset Chess Club

Chess is excellent at teaching kids mental discipline, to look at all their options, to compete under time pressure, to play fair, to learn that mistakes have consequences, to not give up when behind, and to learn many more important life lessons.

Students in grades K through 5 are invited to join the chess club. Kindergartners who want to join should know simple math and some reading and writing, no other skills are required.

All classes will be conducted online this year until further notice. Returning Coaches Brad and Tim will teach using the ChessKid (<https://www.chesskid.com/>) platform. Similar to last year, there will be two sessions offered per day at 3:30pm. On **Mondays, Session I** with Coach Brad will be a beginner class, and **Session II** with Coach Tim will be an advanced class. On **Tuesdays, Session I and II** will both be for intermediate players. All sessions are scheduled from 3:30pm to 5:00pm. The online format will be similar to that of last spring, with some changes incorporating feedback received from our Parent Survey.

Weekly 90-minute class format:

1. Zoom + ChessKid.com - the coaches will collaborate with the class on a Zoom call, and students will play and learn on the ChessKid.com platform. Cameras are encouraged to help the coaches better assess engagement and understanding.
2. Active Coaching lesson – interactive, puzzle, lesson (50-60 minutes)
3. Tournament - hand-pairing, coach commenting (30 minutes)
4. Breakout rooms – allow coaches to have smaller groups and further explain content

The interactive coaching time has been extended from last year, and breakout rooms have been added to ensure multiple opportunities for students to engage with their coach as well as other students. Class size will be restricted, similar to previous in-person classes, to keep classes orderly and allow for all students to comfortably participate. Students registered will be divided into Beginner, Intermediate, or Advanced classes by the coaches. Weekly free tournament

rounds will be held with pairings done by ChessKid (coaches will set the tournaments by ratings to give better games) and occasional hand pairing by coaches.

Coaches Brad and Tim will be offering a **Meet and Greet Session** on Zoom to answer any questions and explain the updated format on [Wednesday Sept. 16 from 6:00-6:30pm.](#)

Click or copy and paste the link to join! <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83149081229>

The tuition rate is **\$320** (reduced due to online format), which includes: 25 chess club sessions and a full year license fee for the ChessKid website. In the event in-person after school activities resume, this fee will also include all chess equipment and supplies needed, handouts, in-class rewards and a year-end party.

Not included: IN-PERSON tournament registration fees if applicable (about \$20 per tournament).

No refunds after registration. In addition, all enrolled families need to have an **active PTSA membership**.

Similar to last year, this year's registration will be a two-stage process. The first stage is priority registration and open to last year's club volunteers only (10:00am September 21, 2020); the second stage, general registration, is open to all active PTSA members. [General registration opens at 10:00am on September 22nd, 2020; the registration link will be announced in the eNews of September 19th.](#)

Office Depot Donation-Give Back to school

The office depot will donate 5% to our school from the purchases of qualifying school supplies, including online and in store order.

Click Office Depot link [https://www.officedepot.com/cm/school-supplies/give-back.](https://www.officedepot.com/cm/school-supplies/give-back)

Simply make a purchase of qualifying school supplies, provide our school's ID 70105935 at checkout (in store and online) and our school will receive 5% back in credits for FREE supplies!

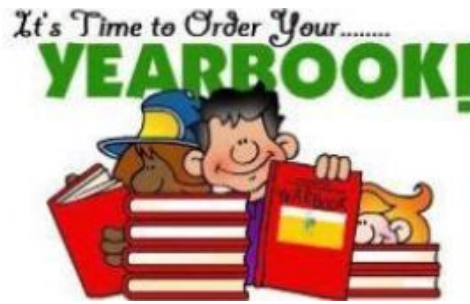
It's a small act that can make a huge difference.

Thanks for supporting our school and PTSA.



Yearbook Purchase Update

Yearbook is [on sale](#) on our website. For those who have already purchased yearbooks online, please note that the personalization for yearbook only has student's first and last name, but no personalized message. If you are not okay with such personalization, you can email to yearbooks.somerset@gmail.com for refund the penalization.



SPIRIT WEAR

Show your pride as a Somerset Superstar and wear your Somerset spirit wear to school! Our online store opens August 30th and will stay open for your purchase until October. Order online at www.somersetpta.org.

SCHOOL NEWS



Accessing Specialist from Next Week

Beginning next week, students will be spending time with their specialists: Art, Library, Music, and PE. Please follow the [link](#) to a "How To" video for students to learn how to navigate to their specialist sessions.

Contact Your Student's School Directly for School-specific Questions

Please contact staff at your student's school about schedules, attendance and other questions specific to your student's school. Connect with your student's teacher,

principal or another member of their team, like an assistant principal or office manager via email or phone. Contact information for school staff are available on each school's website. Visit the [BSD website](#) and select Schools in the top menu to find your school.



Free Immunization clinic

This information is from our school nurse Ruby: Please click on the links below for information on a free immunization clinic open to all BSD students on 9/17/2020 (by appointment) at Eastgate Public Health. The fliers are in Chinese, English, and Spanish.

[English_Eastgate Immunization Clinic_9-17-20.pdf](#)

[Chinese_Eastgate Immunization Clinic_9-17-20.pdf](#)

[SPANISH_Eastgate Immunization Clinic_9-17-20.pdf](#)

BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

Connect with BSD through Let's Talk!

Connect with the Bellevue School District via our [Let's Talk!](#) communications portal for questions about district services, departments or programs. Just select the appropriate category in Let's Talk!.

[Let's Talk!](#) allows parents, guardians and community members to send direct messages to staff in departments and programs – it's just like sending an email. Simply select the best category that fits your question and submit it. Include your contact information if you would like a reply. Please keep in mind that if you choose to submit your question anonymously or do not include your email address, staff are not able to reply to your message.





Remote Learning

As we launch into a new school year, all students and staff will experience the full remote learning model. Our teachers are working in close collaboration to ensure students learn the essential standards for each content area and do so in an age appropriate and engaging way. The finalized schedule for Elementary Full Remote can be found on the BSD website: [Elementary Full Remote Learning](#)

Top 5 Remote Learning Tech Tips

Supporting student technology needs during remote learning is important to the Bellevue School District. The following are the top five questions families have and their solutions:

1. [What is my ParentVUE activation key?](#)
2. [How do I monitor my student's online behavior?](#)
3. [My student's device is constantly freezing in Teams. What do I do?](#)
4. [My student is unable to access content that should be available. What do I do?](#)
5. [Where do I find my student's Teams meeting links?](#)

Technology Support is also available online, by phone, and in-person. [Learn more.](#)



Bellevue School District's After Laptop Monitoring App for Parents

Bellevue School District has worked with AssistX Education to make the mobile app, apParent Online, available to you at no cost. The app will allow you to monitor and manage your child's district issued laptop outside of school hours. The mobile app, apParent Online, is available for Windows devices, iPhones and Android phones. The app enables you to:

- View screen images of your child's device
- Lock your child's device with a custom message
- View 24 hours of your child's web browsing history

To view a 90 second video on how apParent Online works, please click the link below:

<https://vimeo.com/202303936>

You do not need to install anything on your child's Bellevue School District-issued laptop to get started. Simply opt-in and your apParent Online account will be automatically activated.



When the Bellevue School District opens the 2020-21 school year in a remote learning model, we want to ensure that students continue to have access to the nutrition they need. The Meals2Go program, offered by our Nutrition Services team, is designed to provide grab-and-go breakfast and lunch options for families to access for their students. Meals2Go will begin on Wednesday, September 2. More information is available on our [school district website](#).



Transitioning to Hybrid Learning – What You Can Expect

Local and state health experts have said King County infection rates must be below 75 people per 100,000 population for 14 consecutive days before we can return to in-person learning. As of September 2, we are at an infection rate of 77 people per 100,000 population.

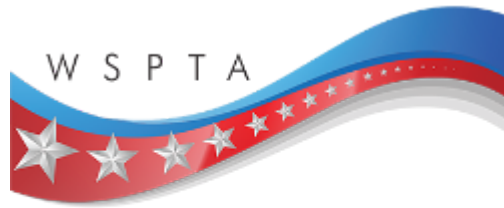
As we prepare for this transition, we anticipate that moving from Temporary Remote to Hybrid Learning will be a gradual shift, more like turning a dial than flipping a switch. You have all demonstrated extraordinary flexibility and patience for six months, and we thank you for continuing to do so!

Once we are below an infection rate of 75 people per 100,000 population for 14 consecutive days and we see a downward trend, we will bring students back in waves. Our top priorities for hybrid are getting our health protocols right, minimizing learning loss and delays, and supporting students both academically and emotionally.

BSD Is Here to Support You

The Bellevue School District recognizes that the COVID-19 pandemic has greatly impacted our learning community. These are some of the resources we have in place:

- Free grab and go breakfast and lunch for children 18 and younger. [Learn more](#). Families in need are also encouraged to complete the 2020-21 application for free or reduced priced meals. The online application can be found at bsd405.org/freeandreduced. Downloadable copies of the application can additionally be found on our website in multiple languages.
- Family Connection Centers: Centers provide families with free essential resources, including food, hygiene items and cleaning supplies. [Learn more](#).
- Mental Health Services: please call our Counseling Hotline at **425-456-4445** or access information and resources on our [website](#).



LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

WSPTA Legislative Assembly

Please mark your calendar for the 42nd Annual Legislative Assembly. The assembly will take place in a virtual format on [October 24-25, 2020](#). More info can be found [HERE](#).

WSPTA Student Programs

Washington State PTA supports a number of programs specifically for students. Check the website for the most up-to-date resources and applications to help your student participate for:

[Reflections](#)

[WSPTA/Game Development Competition](#)

[WSPTA Essay Contest](#)



WSPTA Training and Event Calendar

- [Sep 12 Region 5 Training – PTA and the Law and Managing Your Nonprofit](#)
- [Sep 16 Region 3 and 4 Zoom into memberplanet](#)
- [Sep 16 Region 3 and 4 Zoom into memberplanet](#)
- [Sep 19 PTA and the Law Webinar](#)
- [Sep 19 Region 3 and 4 Conference Kick Off](#)
- [Sep 21 Region 3 and 4 Conference Series](#)
- [Sep 22 PTA and the Law Webinar](#)

- [Sep 23 Region 2 Fall Conference](#)
 - [Sep 24 Region 2 Fall Conference](#)
 - [Sep 24 Region 3 and 4 Conference Series](#)
-



National Arts in Education Week

September 13-19

Whether you're new to PTA or an experienced leader, our new & improved [ArtsEd Leader's Guide](#) will help you establish an ArtsEd team, assess arts programs, practices and policies at your school and engage more families in school decision-making.

National PTA Quick Links

- [Increasing Family Engagement in Diverse Schools](#)
- [Use Healthy Habits All Year Long](#)
- [Learning Heroes - Back to School Webinar](#)
- [Notes from the Backpack Podcast Episodes](#)

COMMUNITY NEWS

(All News in this section are NOT sponsored by the Somerset PTSA. As a service to the community, the PTSA helps to publicize these programs in the eNews.)

Celebrate Welcoming Week with KCLS

Welcoming Week (September 12-22) is an annual celebration highlighting the benefits of an inclusive society. Welcome current and new members of our community, including new immigrant families.

KCLS is celebrating with online stories in English, Mandarin, and Hindi. The program will also highlight library resources, including information on how to get online homework help for free with a KCLS library card. Staff will also show attendees where to find lists of library books, for both kids and adults, that center around several different heritages.

Thursday, September 17, 11am.

[Register to join the Zoom event](#)



Free Pass for 4th Graders and Families

Hey fourth graders! See America's natural wonders and historic sites for free. You and your families get free access to hundreds of parks, lands and waters for an entire year. Get and print fourth-grade passes to our national lands and waters. More details, please see <https://everykidoutdoors.gov/index.htm>



Washington State Park Special Fall 2020 Camping Season Extended

We are excited to announce that we are extending the reservation camping season at select parks



around the state through Nov. 1. The extension of the season at these select parks is in response to a higher than normal demand for camping at parks across the state due to the COVID-19 pandemic. This extended reservation season will allow you to make a reservation and stay at a state park through Nov. 1. This offer is for 2020 only.

[Get more details](#) for each park.

COVID-19 Information

Working together, our community has slowed the spread of COVID-19. Now, King County is working to gradually and carefully reopen the local economy and other aspects of daily living.

Free testing is available in King County regardless of immigration status.

[Free COVID-19 testing locations](#)

<https://kingcounty.gov/elected/executive/constantine/covid-response/safe-start.aspx>

COVID-19 Information Compile by BSD

<https://bsd405.org/services/health/covid-19-information/>

Directory / Links

Executive Committee

President: Sandhiya Kalyanasundaram

Secretary: Sandy Zhang

VP Programs: Andrea Wohlan

Co-VP Ways&Means: Yan Zhou & Yuki Yang

Co-VP Communications: Demi Wang & Peggy Wang

Co-Treasurer: Na Li & Xiaohong Quan

Somerset PTSA

Email: Somersetpts@gmail.com

Newsletter

Submission: Somersetpts@gmail.com

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset Elementary School Website](#)

[Lunch Menu](#)



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.



Follow us on Facebook



Visit our website

Copyright © 2020 SomersetPTSA, All rights reserved.

Bellevue School District 405 would like to continue connecting with you via email. If you prefer to be removed from our list, please contact Bellevue School District 405 directly. To stop receiving all email messages distributed through our SchoolMessenger service, follow this link and confirm: [Unsubscribe SchoolMessenger](#) is a notification service used by the nation's leading school systems to connect with parents, students and staff through voice, SMS text, email, and social media.

Our mailing address is:

14100 Somerset Blvd SE, Bellevue, WA 98006

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

