



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

Mon-Wed, Oct 12nd-14th - Parent Teacher Conferences

Wednesday, Oct 21st 9:40 am - Somerset October Assembly/ Celebrate Unity Day

Wednesday, Oct 21st 9:00 am - 10:00 am - BOD Meeting

Wednesday, Oct 21st 10:00 am- 11:00 am - General Membership Meeting

Tuesday, Oct 27th 12:30 pm - Principal Birthday Lunch (October Birthday)



Fall Fundraising Drive 2020 - Latest Update

Thank you to all Somerset families who have already donated to the Fall Fundraising Drive. **We have already raised \$44,050 with 195 donations as of today.** We really appreciate all the donations have done but still encourage more donations, because your contribution – no matter the amount – makes a big difference to our children especially this year!

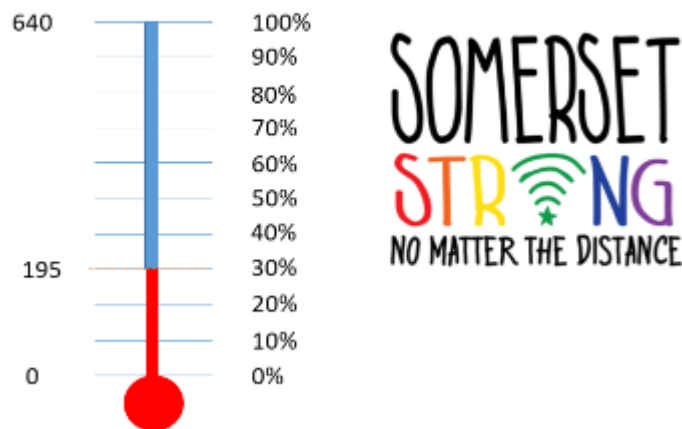
Your donations help to continue enabling Somerset Elementary a highly ranked public school that provides a rich education and supportive learning environment for all its students! Thank you for supporting your Somerset PTSA!



Our principal will schedule a special assembly with the students in the grade that has the highest fundraising participation rate.

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

Our goal is 100% donation rate



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 and Math Circle require 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. [Note that PTSA memberships must be renewed annually](#). Join us now!

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

Important After School Activity Registration Information

Debate Program

The registration for afterschool elementary debate program has started. Registration is full but registration is still accepted for waiting list. If they get enough registration on the waiting list, they will hire additional staff for the class.

Register at: <https://tinyurl.com/somerset-timberlake-regs>

Drama Program

The registration for drama program has started and spots are still available.

Register at: <https://www.homerom.com/sites/somerset-elementary-school-bellevue>

More information about these two programs is available in the following [Community News](#) section.

October Passport Check

Thank you to all the wonderful students who participated in the September passport check. If you didn't get a chance, the material for September is still available on our website. The maps and instructions for October have been posted. Please click [here](#) for more information. Try to complete it before the end of the month!

Thank you for supporting Passport Club!



Reflections Program

Reflections is a National PTA arts recognition program that helps students explore their own thoughts, feelings, and ideas, develop artistic literacy, increase confidence, and find a love for learning that will help them become more successful not only in school but in life. Somerset PTSA is proud to hold this reflection program for our Somerset students.

The theme for the 2020-2021 program year is **I Matter Because....** Students in kindergarten through grade 5 can submit their completed works of art in one, or all, of the available arts categories: Dance Choreography, Film Production, Literature, Music Composition, Photography, Visual Arts. This year because of COVID-19 we will have a virtual reflection submission for all arts.

For more information please click [Reflection Information for all Participants](#). The entries are due on Nov 16th, 2020.

Please do not register on the reflection website. Submit your students work with the [application form](#). For questions please contact Garima Agarwal at somersetreflection2020@gmail.com.

PTSA School Excellence Survey

We would like to have you complete a short survey about how the PTSA and school are doing in servicing your student and your family. Your response is critical to us and can help us to win grant money to help our school. The survey is anonymous.



Please take the survey [HERE](#).

A Chinese version is also available [HERE](#)

PTSA General Membership Meeting

Somerset PTSA invites you to attend the PTSA General Membership Meeting.

Time: Oct 21st 10:00am - 11:00am

Join Zoom Meeting:

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89483808697?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89483808697?pwd=a1A5NFNHTXM0a1BuZEVkeVJRNkJaQT09)

[pwd=a1A5NFNHTXM0a1BuZEVkeVJRNkJaQT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89483808697?pwd=a1A5NFNHTXM0a1BuZEVkeVJRNkJaQT09)

Meeting ID: 894 8380 8697

Passcode: 697193

One tap mobile

+12532158782,,89483808697#,,,,,0#,,697193# US (Tacoma)

+16699006833,,89483808697#,,,,,0#,,697193# US (San Jose)

Dial by your location

+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)

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+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)

+1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

+1 301 715 8592 US (Germantown)

+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)

Meeting ID: 894 8380 8697

Passcode: 697193

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89483808697>



Ice Cream Social Wrap-up

Our Back-to-School Ice Cream Social was a success thanks to everyone who stopped by for an ice cream. It was fantastic and heartwarming seeing so many students and parents again. We gave out more than 400 pieces of ice cream. Please check out our [video](#) for Ice Cream Social photos.

Room Parents Wanted

PTSA recruits room parents for each classroom every fall. At least one room parent is needed for each class, even if we are learning remotely. We can have up to 3 room parents for one class. A room Parent is the main source of communication between the PTSA, your teacher, and the parents in your class.

We are still looking for room parents for the following classrooms:

- Kindergarten GYEONG, SONG
- Kindergarten WILBERT, ELIZABETH
- 1st Grade MAXWELL, MELIA
- 2nd Grade MCCASKEY, LISA
- 2nd Grade SIDIONE LUDENA, BETZY
- 3rd Grade RICHARDS, KELLY
- 4th Grade POTHITOU-WEST, LENA
- 4th Grade VIET, STEPHEN
- 5th Grade ROGERS, DUNCAN

Please sign up [Here](#) if you would like to help. Your help is much appreciated.

Any questions about room parents please contact our room parents coordinator
Parvaneh Zinati: zpary2000@yahoo.com



Volunteer Opportunity

Would you like to be more involved in PTSA activities? We're looking for motivated parents to fill the following chair positions:

Care & Share

5th Grade Activities

Please email somersetpts@gmail.com if you are interested and/or you have questions about these positions. Thank you for supporting our PTSA.

SPIRIT WEAR

Last call for the purchase of Spirit Wear. Our online store ends today October 10th. Order online now at www.somersetpts.org. Show your pride as a Somerset Superstar and wear your Somerset spirit wear to school!

SCHOOL NEWS



Somerset Rank #1 Elementary School in the Puget Sound Region

Somerset Elementary is the top elementary school in the Puget Sound Region, according to Puget Sound Business Journal analysis.

Last year Somerset had 670 students. Washington state canceled standardized testing in the 2019-20 academic year, but the year prior about 93% of Somerset students met standards in English and 91% students met standards in math.

We want to thank all Somerset principal, teachers, staffs and parents. We can not make this achievement without you. Let's continue to work together and make our school strong.

Free and Reduced Priced Meals Program

Please be sure to apply, or reapply, for the **Free & Reduced Priced Meals Program**. Through this program, families can qualify for community partner programs such as Breaktime Mealtime, Eastside Baby Corner, P-EBT, Comcast Internet Essentials, etc. Though community partners will consider economic hardship, participating in the Free & Reduced program is a starting point. Please be sure to complete the **Fee Waiver**, Part 5 (Sharing Information) of the application to receive family services information from the Family Connections Centers. Please apply at [Here](#)

Once you have applied please email Shannon Gregory at gregorys@bsd405.org so she can facilitate the application process.



Principal Birthday Lunches 12:30 – 1:00

- ★ 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

Principal Birthday Lunches

October Birthday lunch celebration will be on Oct 27th at 12:30. Students with an October birthday will receive a Teams invite through their student email accounts from Ruth Embaye, our office manager, the Monday prior. If you don't receive an invitation, please reach out to embayer@bsd405.org. Each session includes an opportunity for students to share something exciting about birthdays, a quick art project and a short story.

October's 2nd Assembly

We will be hosting a special assembly on Oct 21st 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 9:40am.



BELLEVUE SCHOOL DISTRICT NEWS

BSD Drive-thru Flu Vaccination Clinics

The Bellevue School District is partnering with the Seattle Visiting Nurse Association (SVSA) to host drive-thru community flu vaccination clinics at two locations in Bellevue. Students, families, BSD employees and community members over age four are welcome.

Online registration is required – [click here](#).

Additional dates for drive-thru vaccinations have been added for October. All dates and times are at Odle Middle School.

Tuesday, Oct 13, 10:00-6:00

Wednesday, Oct 14, 10:00-6:00

Thursday, Oct 15, 10:00-6:00

For more information please click [here](#).

Advance Learning Testing

Applications for winter 2020-21 advanced learning testing for **students in grades 1 – 11** will be available online starting **Monday, October 12, 2020**. District families interested in applying for testing must apply before the **Monday, November 30, 2020 deadline at 4:30 pm**.

To learn more about advance learning services, please visit [BSD Advance Learning](#)



Bellevue Schools Foundation Fall Campaign

YOU can make a difference for students in all 29 Bellevue Schools. Help us raise \$350,000 to invest in distance learning technology, provide on-line mental health services to students feeling depressed and isolated, fund Family Connection Centers to provide food, rent assistance guidance and technology support needed for every child to thrive. Make YOUR gift today. [Donate HERE](#).

The Bellevue Schools Foundation is looking for a Community Relations Manager to facilitate relationships with community donors and maintain relationships with donors in the 29 Bellevue Public Schools. This is a paid position and a great way to be more involved in your community and work with some amazing people. If you want to know more, view our job posting [HERE](#).

Thank you. If you have any questions, feel free to call Lori Anderson, Communication & Business Manager at 425-456-4199 or 206-369-7185 or email at Lori@bsfdn.org

COMMUNITY NEWS



Afterschool Elementary Debate Program

Jump-start your children into the world of debating. This online program is great for students of all kinds in 4th and 5th graders who like to talk, but also shy students seeking to communicate or gain more self-confidence; students who like to argue, talk, research issues, challenge themselves, want to communicate better, and show interest in bettering their community. Our curriculum is not lecture-based; students will learn by doing. We will teach and engage you to debate effectively. We'll help you prepare cases and responses. You will put that into practice in a supportive atmosphere where you will learn to communicate clearly, persuasively and with self-confidence.

Cost is \$95 for seven classes and includes all instruction and materials.

We waive or lower fees to address family financial needs.

MONDAY PROGRAM

Mondays from 4 to 5pm

Dates: October 19, 26, November 2, 9, 16, 30, Dec. 7

WEDNESDAY PROGRAM

Wednesdays from 4 to 5pm

Dates: October 21, 28, November 4, 11, 18, Dec. 2, 9

Please register at: <https://tinyurl.com/somerset-timberlake-regs>



Studio East - Drama Classes

Studio East has provided high-quality theater classes, workshops, and productions to local schools since 1992. Our drama classes give students a safe environment to learn:

Confidence, Self-esteem, Team-building, Responsibility, Time Management, Literacy, Public Speaking, Perseverance, and, 21st Century Skills!

Class Description: In Drama: Play Creation students learn how to create a play from scratch in this interactive, creative, and energetic online drama class! We'll create characters, imagine a story, write lines, and use acting skills to bring our original story to life. We'll record the final performance and send it out after class.

Days & Time: Thursdays 3:45 – 5:15pm

Dates: October 22nd – December 17th (no class on November 26th)

Price: \$175

Please register at: <https://www.homerom.com/sites/somerset-elementary-school-bellevue>



Tyee PTSA Goodwill Donation Drive

Donate Household Items & Volunteer at Tyee middle school PTSA's Goodwill Drive Fundraiser. Goodwill is bringing a truck to Tyee middle school on **Sunday, October 18th, from 2 – 5 pm** to accept donations of used goods.

You can bring almost everything to the donation drive including clothes, shoes, books, household items, linens, small electronics, exercise equipment, rugs, bed frames, toys, lamps, and small furniture (No bigger than a side table). As part of the E-cycle Washington program, Goodwill collects televisions, computer monitors, desktop computers, laptops, and other electronics that are still in working condition.

It's time to bring your things to the donation drive. You'll get a donation tax receipt. It will be very helpful for the volunteer sorting when you pack the donated stuff in categories.

Washington State

Park Free Day

Today (Oct 10th) is the Washington State Park free day. Discovery pass will not be required to visit a state park in WA.



KCLS Online Program: Terrifying Tales Short Story Contest

Can you scare the socks off your librarian? Put your storytelling skills to the test and submit your own spooky story between October 1-21 for a chance to have it published on the KCLS website! We will judge entries on creativity, the quality of the writing and how much they terrify us.

This contest is for children, teens, and adults ages 9 and older. We will judge stories on creativity, the quality of the writing, and how much they terrify us. We will select a winner in each of the following age groups:

- 9 to 11
- 12 to 14
- 15 to 17
- 18 and older

The deadline to submit your story is 11:59 pm on Wednesday, October 21. We will announce the winners and publish their stories by October 31. For more information, please visit [KCLS website](#)

WSPTA Now Seeking Nominations

Washington State PTA is pleased to announce that we are now [accepting nominations for officer positions](#) to serve on the Washington State PTA Board of Directors for a two year term from 2021-2023.

Members are encouraged to be a part of this important process by nominating others who they feel will best represent the association and help guide our strategic vision moving forward. Members may also self-declare for a position they are interested in.

Learn more about the job descriptions [here](#) and to submit a nomination please submit this [form](#). Deadline is November 15, 2020.

Legislative Priority Survey



The [survey](#) deadline has been extended to Sunday, October 11, 11:59 pm. It only takes about five minutes to fill out and let your community know what is important to you!

Reflections Theme Search

National PTA is seeking a theme for the 2022-2023 Reflections program year. The student who submits the winning entry will receive \$100 and his or her theme will be presented at the annual National PTA Convention in June 2021. Please review the past themes listed on the [website](#). Repeat themes will not be considered. Use the form in the [Theme Search](#) dropdown to submit theme ideas. Only signed forms will be considered.

Please submit entries via email to laura.peterson@wastatepta.org by November 1, 2020.

National PTA Quick Links

- [New Position Statement - Inclusive Curricula in K-12 Education](#)
- [Increasing Family Engagement in Diverse Schools](#)
- [New Membership Campaign Materials](#)

- [Use Healthy Habits All Year Long](#)
- [Learning Heroes Steps for a Different Kind of School Year](#)
- [Learning Heroes Steps for a Different Kind of School Year \(Spanish\)](#)

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: Somersetpta@gmail.com

Newsletter

Submission: Somersetpta@gmail.com

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset PTSA BOD Meeting Minutes](#)

[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.



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Our mailing address is:

14100 Somerset Blvd SE, Bellevue, WA 98006

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