

October 13, 2019

Unit # 020512

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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.

Please Note: This newsletter may be truncated by your email program. Please click [VIEW ENTIRE MESSAGE](#) at the bottom or top to read the full newsletter.

PTSA NEWS

PTSA / School Calendar - Upcoming Dates and Events

THIS WEEK

- Monday, October 14th - Conference Day - **Early Release at 1:20pm**
- Tuesday, October 15th - Conference Day - **Early Release at 1:20pm**
- Tuesday, October 15th - 6:00 - 8:00pm - Parenthood Development - Savvy Parents - Safe Kids
- Wednesday, October 16th - Conference Day

NEXT WEEK & UPCOMING

- Tuesday, October 22nd - 7:00 - 8:00pm - PTSA General Membership Meeting
- Friday, October 25th - Reflections Submission Deadline
- Friday, October 25th - Passport Check Day

- Saturday & Sunday, October 26th & 27th - WSPTA Legislative Assembly

LOOKING AHEAD

- Friday, November 1st - STEM Night - **new date!**
- Monday, November 11th - Veteran's Day - No School
- Wednesday, November 13th - School Picture Retake Day
- Monday, November 25th - Movie Night

VIEW THE COMPLETE SOMERSET PTSA CALENDAR

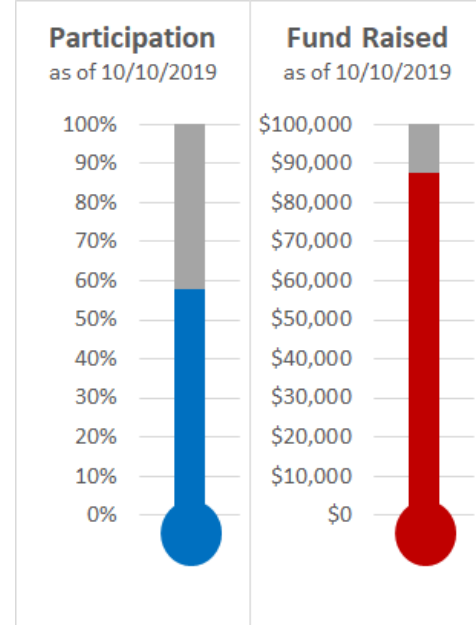


Thank you to everyone who has contributed to our Fall Fundraising Drive so far this year! Through the drive, we have collected \$87,822.25 donation, which is almost 90% of our \$100,000 goal. 391 students (58% of the student population) have participated. It is the best year ever for our fall fundraising. Thank you for all of your generous donations to make it a success.

If you have not made a donation yet and wish to do so, you can still give! We hope you will continue to support this fundraiser if you are able to. As the school year continues, we will still be accepting donations online at www.somersetpsa.org or by dropping off cash/check into the white mailbox at the office. We need your gifts to continue to provide the programming and level of support that has helped make Somerset Elementary a top elementary school and our neighborhood a highly desirable community to live in.

Don't forget to check [HERE](#) to see if your company will match your donation and initiate a match whenever possible. Taking a few minutes to complete the process is like finding free money to support Somerset.

We are so grateful for your support!



After School Activity Information

Information about after school programs will be listed below in the “**Community News**” section of the eNews. The after-school programs in the Community News section are run by outside vendors and are NOT sponsored by the PTSA. As a service to the community, the PTSA publicizes these programs in the eNews. In addition to these outside vendor-run programs, Somerset Elementary School will run some clubs before or after school which is to be determined. The school will provide information about those clubs in the near future.

There are three types of after-school activities:

1. Those run by our PTSA: Chess Club and Math Circle. These clubs are heavily relied on parent volunteers and PTSA membership is required to register. We put those news pieces under the PTSA News section.
 2. Those run by our teachers: to be determined by our wonderful teachers. We had Coding Club and Robotic Club last year. Teachers will send out information to the appropriate grades in the near future. If we receive info from them, we will include it in our weekly eNews under the School News section.
 3. Those run by outside vendors: Soccer, Karate, Debate, Drama, and Basketball. All registrations and payments are handled by the vendor directly. They are not covered by our insurance. PTSA helped to bring them in based on feedback from our annual parent survey as a service to our community.
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After School Program Parent Survey Results

Based on the results on the parent survey, the Somerset PTSA is happy to announce three new outside vendors who will be bringing their programs to Somerset. Please be reminded that after school vendors handle registrations and payments directly. The PTSA works to coordinate efforts with these vendors to make sure a diverse after school program is introduced to the school. The fall session registration for the following after school activities will be open on October 14th at 10:00am. Registration will be first come first serve.

- Studio East Drama. K-2nd. 3rd-5th Wednesdays, from 1:25-2:45 pm.
- Local Hoops Basketball. All levels. Ages 7-11. Thursdays, from 5:30-6:30pm.
- Climb the Mountain Debate Club. 4-5th grades. 3:40-4:40pm.

Please refer to the "**Community News**" section below for more detailed information on each activity and how to register.

Program Chairs Needed

We are looking for a VP Programs co-chair for the Somerset PTSA board. Please email us directly at Somersetpts@gmail.com if you want to join the team.

Festival of Culture

The Festival of Culture and Culture Week has been a Somerset favorite for many years. Do you want to see a Festival of Culture this year again? If yes, please step up and volunteer as the chair for this event. In case we won't be able to recruit a new chair we will have to cancel this event for this school year. Please email us directly at Somersetpts@gmail.com if you are interested.

Student Volunteers Needed For Family STEM Night

The Somerset PTSA is looking for high school student volunteers to help run stations at Family STEM Night on Friday, November 1, 2019! Volunteers will receive some training from PTSA

organizers, and then help students and their parents complete simple science & engineering projects. Volunteers will receive 3 hours of volunteer credit through x2vol.

Register [HERE](#).

Questions? Contact SomersetSTEM@gmail.com

AMC8 Competition Registration

Math Circle Club is happy to announce that, owing to our efforts to coordinate, Somerset is now an accredited school and will host the AMC8 competition on Tuesday, November 12th at 7:00pm. Our Math Circle members will have priority for registration. [Registration](#) will open to all 4th and 5th graders starting 10:00am on Thursday, October 17th. Registration will open to all students if slots are still available (there will be a total of 40 slots). The enrollment fee is \$7/student.

Parenthood Development - Keeping Kids Safe by Christy Keating

Tuesday, October 15th from 7:00pm - 8:30pm

This workshop will help touch on some of the topics relevant to all parents at Somerset. The 90-minute workshop will use broader strokes to cover safety topics.

- Red Flags and Warning Signs
- Intro to online safety
- The “Fab 5” questions every parent should ask before a play-date or sleepover
- Prevention tips
- Conversation starters for safety
- Myth busting
- Talking to your kids about body safety

This is a free event brought to you by the PTSA. Please register [HERE](#).

Math Adventure Is Going Into Space At STAR BASE ALPHA

Friday, December 6th, 6:15pm to 8:30pm @ Somerset Gym

Somerset Math Adventure is a non-competitive, team-based, fun, interactive event. Please refer to the [FAQ](#) page for an introduction of Math Adventure and general questions. Registration is open to Somerset students in grades 1 through 5. Please assemble teams of 4 students with similar math level, including a team coach, and at least one adult volunteer.

Registration fee is \$21 per student. Need-based scholarships will be available through the main office. Team registration opens at **10:00am on Thursday, October 10th and closes at 11:59pm on Thursday, October 31st**. Spaces may be filled up earlier. To register, please visit the PTSA website [HERE](#).

If you have any further questions, or would like to join the event planning committee, please do not hesitate to send a message to SomersetMath@gmail.com.

Thank you!

Reflections Program: Look Within

Somerset PTSA is encouraging all students to participate in 2019 reflection 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.



The theme for the 2019-2020 program year is *Look Within*. 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.

Please do not register on the Reflections website. Submit your students work with the application form through this link [HERE](#) before Friday, October, 25th at the Somerset Elementary School

Office. Any questions please contact Garima Agarwal at adgarima@gmail.com.

For more detailed information about the submission requirements, please click [HERE](#).

SCHOOL NEWS

Conference Days

Conference days are October 14th, 15th, and 16th. On each of these days we will follow our Wednesday early release day schedule, 9:05am - 1:20pm. Busses will run on our Wednesday schedule. If you typically pick your child up from school, please note this change in times. Your child's teacher will let you know when your assigned conference time is.

After school care operates on the Wednesday schedule too.

Earthquake Drill

Somerset will participate in the statewide earthquake drill on Thursday, October 17th at 10:17am. We will practice the Drop, cover and hold response during the drill. During the week, students will hear morning announcements with information about what to do if you are not at school or inside a classroom when there is an earthquake.

This is a great time for families to create or check the supplies of a disaster relief kit.



Donate Your Lego

A Lego Club for recess during the rainy season is in the making. Should you have Lego in your house that is only collecting dust please consider donating it to the school. All types of Lego are welcome. A Lego donation box will be located in the main office. Thank you.



Unity Week

The week of October 21st - 25th is Unity Week and Somerset is all in. Please encourage your child to **wear orange on Wednesday, October 23rd** which is the official Unity Day. During the week, in addition to morning announcements, daily posters being hung, and lunch videos, the following will occur:

- **Monday:** Students "Take steps for kindness, acceptance, and inclusion" and during recess may run for unity.
- **Tuesday:** Unity graffiti wall at recess.
- **Wednesday:** Parent information night and movie *Inside Out* and related activity for students. **Students and staff wear orange.**
- **Thursday:** Taproot Theater Presentation for students, **Team Player Mode.**
- **Friday:** Class pledge project and "Stepping up" activity for each student to make a pledge.

Tutoring Club

Join the Student Education Association (SEA) for FREE tutoring sessions on Tuesday afternoons from 4:00-5:00pm at Room 209 of Somerset Elementary. Do you want some extra support with your school work? Do you want to take your skills to a higher level?

Newport HS students come to tutor in all subjects while supervised by a teacher.

Questions?

Contact SEA or Mr. Rogers

NewportHSSea@gmail.com or RogersD@bsd405.org

*Please let us know if you plan to attend so we can assure there are enough tutors.

Running Club Update

Running club had a very successful first day session, we had over 80% of students participating. Students were extremely motivated to finish as many laps as they can. I am sure they will be super excited while it's time to get rewards with foot tokens. We are planning on reward Monday to hand out the foot tokens to students who earned by running 6 laps or more in a week.



I would like to call for more volunteers to help with foot token distribution every Monday from 12:30 - 2:30 pm (except for 10/14/2019 and 11/04/2019, from 10:40 am - 1:10 pm), one volunteer to hand out foot token, one to check off names from the list of rewards.

If you are interested, please sign up [HERE](#). There are also a few slots open for scan and counting laps for students. Please sign up using the link above as well.

Thank you so much for all your support!

BELLEVUE SCHOOLS FOUNDATION

Annual Clickathon

The Bellevue Schools Foundation's Annual Clickathon event will be held October 22nd and 23rd. All donations over \$100 made on these two days will be matched 1:1. Our goal is to raise \$300,000 from parents like YOU. Public funding is not enough to fund the exceptional programming that makes Bellevue Schools the best in the Nation.



Donate [HERE](#) or at BellevueSchoolsFoundation.org to fund the following programs in our schools:

- Training for teachers to integrate cutting-edge Computer Science curriculum in every classroom;

- Training for 40+ additional counselors to address student stress, anxiety and depression;
- Libraries in our classrooms with characters and narratives that reflect our District's global culture;
- Mentoring programs that provide one-on-one support for students in need;
- And more!

BELLEVUE GIFTED ALLIANCE

Bellevue Gifted Alliance Events

College Student Panel

College students from BSD's Advanced Learning (previously the gifted) program discuss how to choose a college. Tina Neville will speak about the "Essay Dos and Don'ts" .

Thursday, December 19th, 2019

6:30 - 8:00pm

Location:

Bellevue High School Performing Arts Center, 10416 SE Wolverine Way, Bellevue

High School Student Panel

High school students who attended BSD's Advanced Learning (previously the gifted) program discuss how to choose a high school.

Wednesday, January 8th, 2020

6:30 - 8:00pm

Location:

Wilburten Instructional Services Center (WISC), Rainier Room, 12111 Main St., Bellevue

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.)

Studio East - Drama Classes

Wednesdays from 1:25-2:45 pm, for students in K-2 and grade 3-5.

Studio East has provided high-quality theater classes, workshops, and productions to local schools since 1992. Our drama classes provide students a safe and fun environment to learn: Confidence, Self-esteem, Team-building, Responsibility, Time Management, Literacy, Public Speaking, Perseverance, and 21st Century Skills!

In Story Drama, K-2 graders will act out different fairytales and choose their favorite to make into a play.

In Wacky One Act, 3-5 graders will build a play from scratch, becoming writers, directors, and actors.

All classes end in a final performance that friends and family are invited to attend on the final class!

Program starts Wednesday, October 23rd and runs through December, 18th (8 week program).

Registration opens October 14th at 10:00am; places fill on a first come, first serve basis.

Register [HERE](#).

Local Hoops Basketball

All STARS will experience:

- Fun Atmosphere
- Skill Development
- Training Opportunity to win prizes Competitive Games
- And more.....

Thursdays from 5:30 - 6:30pm. All levels. Ages 7-11.

Program starts Thursday, October 24th and runs through December, 19th (8 week program).

Registration opens October 14th at 10:00am; places fill on a first come, first serve basis.

Register [HERE](#).

Climb The Mountain - Elementary Debate Program

Jump-start your children into the world of debating. This 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 \$69 for six classes and includes all instruction and materials.

Class on Mondays (Oct 21, Oct 28, Nov 4, Nov 18, Nov 25, Dec 2 - 6 week program)

Registration opens October 14th at 10:00am; places fill on a first come, first serve basis.

Register [HERE](#).

Small Hands On Arts Presents: Aladin

Small Hands On Arts is a not-for-profit organization that believes in providing arts education to students. Be part of the next production "Aladin". All ages welcome, no prior experience necessary.

Rehearsal takes place from 8:00am - 9:00am, rehearsal dates: October 17th, 24th, 31st and November 7th. Recital on November 7th at 7:30pm in the school cafeteria (performing students must arrive at 7:00pm). Costs: \$95.

No pre-registration necessary. Have your student bring completed registration form and check to

first day of rehearsal. Registration forms are available in the school office and school cafeteria.

Newport Lacrosse Grades 2-8 Fall Ball registration is open!

Never played lacrosse before? It doesn't matter! Newport Lacrosse Fall Ball is a great way for new players to get introduced to lacrosse and for our experienced players to keep their stick skills sharp in the off-season. Grade 2-8 Fall Ball is once a week on Sundays mainly to avoid conflicting with most other sports.



Practices begin on Sunday, September 15th and continue through the 18th of November. They will be held at Tillicum Middle School's new turf field. Newport Lacrosse's youth program is fun-focused and fundamental skill driven. On Sundays your youth players will be divided into respective groups of similar ages. We look forward to seeing you there.

Newport Lacrosse Registration Link: [HERE](#)

Karate Class

Washington Shito Ryu Academy is offering karate classes to elementary school ages youth ages 5 to 12 years. Children learn about themselves using the tools of karate - the values of hard work, self-appreciation, integrity, healthy life choices, and self-discipline. All classes are taught by licensed black belt instructors.

Cost: \$330.00

Sessions run Fridays at 3:35 - 5:00pm (9/27, 10/4, 10/18, 10/25, 11/1, 11/8, 11/15, 11/22, 12/6, 12/13, 12/20)

Register: <http://washitoryuacademy.com/registration/registration/> (select Quarterly tuition)

Rocketry camp and STEM camp with Wise Camps

On Mondays starting October 28th, there will be a brand new rocketry camp (3-2-1 Blastoff!) for

students in grades 5-8 at Odle Middle School from 5-6:30 p.m. for 6 weeks (skipping 11/11 since there is no school that day) with the last session taking place on a Saturday at 9 a.m. (Rocket launch day!). The cost is \$175 which includes all of the rocket-building supplies. More details and registration at www.wisecamps.org

On Monday, November 11th, there is no school due to Veteran's Day. We are offering a fun day of STEM activities at Newport High School for students in grades 3-6 (and have a Red, White & Blue chemistry demonstration to honor Veterans!). The day camp will take place from 8:30-3:30 p.m. with drop off beginning as early as 7:30 a.m. and pick up by 4:30 p.m. The cost is \$150.

More details and registration at www.wisecamps.org.

Girl Scouts Information Night

Come to an info session to learn more about what girls do at Girl Scouts and different ways to volunteer, schedules, cost, and how to sign up the girl in your life. Be sure to bring your girl to participate in a fun scouting activity. New troops are forming. You are welcome to go to any night.

Tuesday, October 22nd: 6:00 - 7:30pm

Puesta Del Sol Elementary

Contact angela@liad.org for more information, or the council person Charity at charrison@girlscoutswv.org. www.GirlScoutsWW.org

Directory / Links

Executive Committee

Co-President: Bonnie Lau and Christine Lee

Secretary: Sandhiya Kalyanasundaram

Co-VP Programs: Tuli Davenport and Edith Ng

Co-VP Ways and Means: Emilie Castle

Co-Treasurers: Grace Yu and Yan Zhou



Shop at Amazon log in [HERE](#) and select 'SomersetElementary PTSA' and AmazonSmile donates to Somerset PTSA.

Or click <https://smile.amazon.com> for your purchase. The AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to

VP Communications: Andrea Wohlan

our PTSA. Thank you very much for supporting our school and PTSA.

Somerset PTSA Email:

Somersetptsa@gmail.com

Newsletter Submission:

Somersetptsa@gmail.com

[Somerset PTSA Website](#)

[Somerset Elementary School Website](#)

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