



ELK PLAIN K-8 PTA NEWSLETTER

2018/2019 PTA OFFICERS:

PRESIDENT:
Christine Link, christinelink@yahoo.com

VICE PRESIDENT:
Crystal Green, cowgirl_73@msn.com

TREASURER:
Jessica Mays, jessicacaddell@yahoo.com

SECRETARY:
Michelle Davis, closer919@msn.com

NEWSLETTER ENTRIES: judymonhollen@gmail.com

READ TOGETHER



READ & LEAD 2019

EPSOC PTA and Staff would like to thank all of the families participating in the Read and Lead 2019 Program.

Here are a few Read and Lead reminders:

- If your student is not participating yet, it is not too late! We will be accepting completed Read and Lead sheets until March 18th.
- To be eligible for the ice cream party, your student's class must be at 100% participation (each student has turned in at least one completed tracking sheet), or your student must have turned in 10 completed sheets.
- Students who achieve the 1000-minute goal (10 completed sheets turned in) will also earn a medal at the Read and Lead Assembly.
- **The last turn in date for completed Read and Lead sheets is Monday, March 18th.**

We hope that this program serves its purpose of creating quality family time and challenging your student to read every day. EPSOC PTA and Staff appreciate your support and dedication to your student(s)!

A big THANK YOU goes out to the Read and Lead team who have worked so diligently every week to track those sheets, move the students' progress up the board, and fill out the weekly prizes. Your hard work is appreciated!!!

Thank you to our Read & Lead Team: Sharon Abra, Mara Areglo, Brandy Bargelt, Shannon Barker, Keri Ewing, Crystal Green, Brittany Higgins, Jessica Mays, Michelle McIntosh, Vanessa Moore, Deanna Nussbaum, Susan Render, Jessika Robinson, Shaunna Ruda, and Lisa Vigil

As always, if you have any questions or concerns, feel free to contact: Marisa Courson (gohawks12thman@yahoo.com)

Thank you!



Thank you from the bottom of our hearts for taking the time to fill out your ballots and voting YES for Bethel Schools!

2018/2019 EPSOC PTA MEMBERSHIP FORM

To become a member please complete this form, choose your membership level, and return to your child's teacher with check made out to EPSOC PTA.

Name: _____
 Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____
 Email: _____ Phone: _____
 Child(ren)/Teacher(s): _____

Standard Membership Fees: Individual: \$10 Couple: \$18

Business Memberships: PTA Website Ad: \$25
 Website & Monthly PTA Facebook Ad: \$50

Total Submitted:

\$ _____



from the President

CHRISTINE LINK

christinelink@yahoo.com

The past few months have been a true test of Elk Plain's ability to set the standard for parental involvement in the district, and we passed with flying colors. After our Battle of the Ballots showed a marked increase in returned ballots, the challenge was extended to all PTAs in the district and has resulted in the passing of the construction bond! Along with exceptional involvement from Centennial, Naches Trail, and Pioneer Valley's PTAs, we increased voter turnout among parents (in spite of an historical snow storm), secured Elk Plain's status as a K-8 School of Choice, and played a part in passing a bond that will benefit students for the next decade and beyond. It will be exciting to finally watch all the changes unfold in our neighborhoods! Thank you to everyone who voted, collected and submitted "I Voted" tabs, handed out reminder cards at parent pickup, commented with accurate information on social media, and represented the district in a professional, positive way. Every little bit helped!

Sincerely,

Christine Link

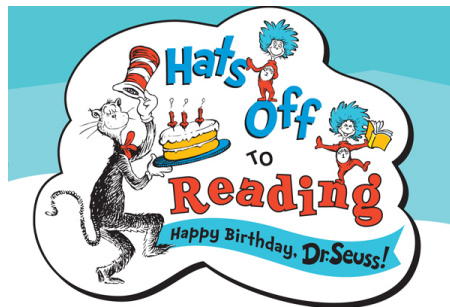
Elk Plain PTA President

Glow Dance

Friday, March 8th
6:00-8:30pm

"Wear your best green"

This is a K-8 FAMILY event. Admission is free. Glow items and snacks for sale, cash or checks accepted. Proceeds go to Family Fun Nights.



VH= Opportunity for Volunteer Hours ♻️= Recycling Available

MARCH/APRIL EVENTS

- » **READ and LEAD** VH
January 8th-March 18th
- » **STEM Night**
Thursday, March 7th, 5:30-7:00pm
- » **Family Fun Night: Glow Dance** VH
Friday, March 8th, 6:00-8:30pm
Elk Plain Gym
- » **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Wednesday, March 13th, 2:30pm
Elk Plain Library
- » **Read and Lead Ice Cream Party (Students and Volunteers Only)** VH
Wednesday, March 20th
- » **PTA General Meeting (Elections)** VH
Wednesday, March 20th, 2:30pm
Elk Plain Library
- » **EPSOC Beautification** VH
Sunday, March 24th, 10am-noon
- » **Scholastic Book Fair** VH
March 25th-28th
Elk Plain Library
- » **Staff Luncheon** VH
Tuesday, March 26th
- » **Read and Lead Assembly** VH
Friday, March 29th
- » **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Wednesday, April 10th, 2:30pm
Elk Plain Library
- » **Muffins with Mom** VH
Friday, April 19th, 7:00am
Elk Plain Gym
- » **Earth Day Celebration** VH ♻️
Friday, April 19th
- » **Bingo** VH
Friday, April 26th, 6:00-8:00pm
Elk Plain Gym

early MAY EVENTS

- » **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Wednesday, May 8th, 2:30pm
Elk Plain Library
- » **BOGO Book Fair** VH
May 15th-17th
- » **PTA General Meeting (Budget)** VH
Wednesday, May 15th, 2:30pm
Elk Plain Library



Book Fair March 25-28

Stop by our Dino-mite Book Fair in the Library during Conference Week!

Hours:

Monday 7:20am-2:30pm
 Tuesday 7:20am-7pm
 Wednesday 7:20am-2:30pm
 Thursday 7:20am-1pm



Just a reminder, if you're sending cash or check with your student, don't forget to add 9.3% sales tax. Thank you! If you'd like to volunteer, contact Shaunna Ruda at shaunmaruda@gmail.com.

Coming Together In Community

The Bond passed! That is what everyone in our "community" is saying. Some said it happily, and some, not so much. But it got me thinking about community and how we all fit together.

It all starts with the first understanding of where I fit, physically, in the world of communities.

My community lies at the intersection of Meridian and 224th.

At the corner of 224th and Meridian stretches a community that has been around for over a century. I come from a place with no definite form or shape, no local government, no committed centralized community, and no designated town. There are no boundaries and no form; just the echoes of past farms and homesteads, cows mooing in the now closed dairy farms, men gathered at the local Grange, and kids biking down dirt roads toward the river.

When I moved here 28 years ago, the area was talked about in terms of the nearest Grange. I lived out past the Graham 4-corners, where the Thrift Grange stood. The non-specific town encompassed the Graham Grange, the Thrift Grange, the Orting Grange, and the Kapowsin Grange. If you got as far as the Elk Plain Grange, you were into Spanaway Country, another boundless entity with no centralized community.

Community – I'm part of many communities, and all my communities are equally important to my personal well-being.

I am part of a family community – both nuclear and extended. I belong to a community of co-workers and also, the larger school community. Several of us make a community of friends that extends from being brought together by work. Belonging to my Book Club makes me part of a community bound by the love of books. One of my communities is rooted in personal one-on-one experiences over time. There is even a community for me in the internet world, built of individuals who share a love of natural places, such as National Parks and National Wildlife Refuges.

You get the idea. We are communal creatures, like a mob of crows who share food and sleeping centers. Crows also share, like us, the mourning of a fellow community member or the collecting of shiny bobbles. Many species also exhibit our need for connection – our local orca pods, troops of macaque monkeys, hills of ants, a colony of aspens, and wolf packs. All these examples remind us we are members of an even larger community – the living things that inhabit our largest community – Earth.

And this census-designated place (CDP) in Pierce County recently came together to support the largest designated entity in our unincorporated area, the Bethel School District. That was the work of Community, and this Community member is glad.

Thankfully yours,
Georgina Gryc Park
georginapark@hotmail.com



CLOTHING DRIVE

This year's Clothing Drive was a great success!! We collected and donated 3 carloads of clothes and shoes. Thank you Sky Warriors! Wear It Out Clothing Bank and the EP PTA appreciates your hard work and donations!! Also, a big thanks to the volunteers that helped make this happen! ☺

BINGO

**April 26
6:00-8:00pm in the Elk Plain Gym**

Bingo night is coming up on April 26. It will be a fun family night with a silent auction and bingo. There will also be food for purchase. I am looking for donations of baskets/items/services for the silent auction. I also need volunteers to help make the night a success. Please email me at beatherg81@hotmail.com if you would like to contribute to the auction or volunteer.

{upcoming}

Beautification DATES

Spring is in the Air!

EPSOC Beautification is back on as our crocus and daffodils are popping up! We will be hosting our first spring clean-up on **Sunday, March 24 from 10 a.m. to noon**. As always, gloves, gardening trowels and yard waste bags will be provided. We can not keep our campus looking as good as it does without the support of our amazing volunteers!

We are also planning our Annual Earth Day/gardening day for all students, which will take place on **Friday, April 19**, during the school day.

We are seeking donations of seeds and plants that have proven successful in the past. Lupine, alyssum, petunia, viola, calendula and pansy pony pack plants have done well. Seeds such as sunflower, lupine, foxglove and columbine have grown to maturity at EPSOC also. Any and all donations are greatly appreciated! If you are able to volunteer to assist on Earth Day or wish to help your student's class please email Mrs. Townsend-Schmidt at dtownsend@bethelsd.org. Thank you for your consideration!



THE READ AND LEAD ICE CREAM PARTY is a great event to flex our recycling know-how. About 75% of the packaging from the supplies can be recycled either in curbside recycle totes or at the recycle center in Tacoma. These include all the plastic ice cream tubs, plastic lids and caps, plastic bottles and tubs from toppings, plastic bottles of syrup, and even aerosol whipped cream cans (these have to be taken to Tacoma along with all the caps and lids). We are also using metal spoons from the central kitchen instead of throwing away 700 plastic spoons. Most of what we throw away will be just be napkins, paper bowls, uneaten ice cream, and any cardboard ice cream containers. This means that instead of making around 6 bags of trash, we will only be making about 2. That's a 66% decrease in what we send to the landfill!

To date, here's what we have collected from our lunchroom!

- » 365 gallons of compost
- » 4,000 pieces of Terracycle
- » 650 Lunchable trays
- » 420 gallons (7 large trash bags) of rigid plastic

Terracycle items for the 2018/19 School Year:

- Plastic Cereal Bags & Cereal Box Liners
- Applesauce/Yogurt Pouches & Caps
- Foil-Lined Energy Bar Wrappers
- All Clif Product Wrappers
- Toothbrushes and Toothpaste Tubes
- Deodorant Containers
- Floss Dispensers

Any brand of the above products will be accepted. All items can be stored and dropped off "mixed" except hygiene items. Please collect those in a separate bag.

All of these items earn the PTA money. Over the last 2 years we've earned over \$500!



clip and save me!



STUDENT STORE

Every Tuesday during lunch recess!

EPSOC PTA General Membership Meeting Minutes November 18, 2018, 2:15pm, EPSOC

Call to order: 2:21 pm

Meeting Minutes—September general meeting minutes are reviewed and filed.

Treasurer's Report—Report reviewed and filed.

New Business

Grant Requests

Grant request by Mrs. Colyer. C2 is requesting \$600 to purchase new books for their classroom library. Motion by Byron Smith and second by Melissa Pate. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Grant request approved.

Grant request by Mrs. Pattee. Mrs. Pattee is requesting money to cover the cost for the AR program for Elk Plain School of Choice. Amount request is \$2,381.40. Request covers at least 378 students. Motion by Byron Smith and second by Heather Bahrt. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Grant request approved.

Grant request by Mrs. Park. Mrs. Park requesting \$59.50 to cover the cost for new field guides. Motion by Shaunna Rude and second by Ayme Bergamot. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Grant request approved.

Grant request by Mrs. Park. Mrs. Park requesting money to purchase 4 new sets of binoculars. Amount requested is \$263.72. Motion by Ayme Bergamot and second by Shaunna Ruda. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Grant request approved.

Grant request by Mr. Mitchell. Mr. Mitchell requesting money to cover a pizza party for the winning grade in the Battle of the Ballots contest. Amount requested is not to exceed \$100. Motion by Georgina Park and second by Kari Harbert. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Grant request approved.

Standing Rules

Christine Link addressing a correction needed in the Standing Rules. The change is under I. Association section C. Date to be changed from 11/15 to 5/31. Motion by Byron Smith and second by Marjorie Colyer. Nobody opposed and no abstentions.

Fundraiser money allotment

Every teacher to receive a \$50 gift card and para educators to receive a \$25 gift card. This will lead to an increase in the Staff Appreciation budget of \$2100. Motion by Crystal Green and second by Shaunna Ruda. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Increase approved.

Classroom learning grants to be doubled for field trips. This will increase the budget for Classroom learning grants by \$4,500. Motion by Shaunna Ruda and second by Melissa Pate. Nobody opposed and no abstentions. Increase approved.

Speaker

Mr. Mitchell speaking on behalf of Kelly Boynton for the B.E.S.T. scholarship. The Graham Business Association will be having a silent auction on March 8, 2019. It will be 6:30 pm at Nelson Elementary. All proceeds benefit the B.E.S.T. scholarship fund. PTA has been requested to donate a basket for the silent auction. All members asked to spread the word and promote the business and to attend the activity.

Mid Year financial review is due after January 31, 2019

Committee Reports

Families in need—Report read by Christine Link for Angie Strub. There were 1,400 pounds of food, etc from the food drive. Top classes were Wellman, McIver and Evans. 10 families from Elk Plain were

provided food from the drive. 6 boxes were given to the backpack program. Snacks were given to Mrs. Maddox. 3 car loads were taken to the Nourish food bank.

Popcorn—Christine Link reports that popcorn committee raised enough money for each student to have free popcorn 1 Friday per month for the remainder of the school year.

Fall Carnival—Christine Link reports that a new chair person is needed for Fall Carnival for next school year.

Membership—Christine Link reports that a new chair person is needed for Membership committee next year. This committee is mainly needed for the beginning of the school year.

Box Tops—Rebecca Byers reports that the deadline to submit Box Tops in March 1, so the school deadline will be February 15. The school earned \$720 from Box Tops in the fall.

Book Fair—Shaunna Ruda reports earnings, etc from fall book fair. Total sales were \$5,704.40 and \$5,219.03 before tax. Elk Plain received half of that amount back in Scholastic dollars. \$35 was given to each teacher x 28 teachers. Mrs. Maddox was given \$10 gift cards to be used for students in need.

Holiday Shop—Heather Bahrt reports that \$20 vouchers provided to Mrs. Maddox have been used well by the students.

Read and Lead—Crystal Green reports that Read and Lead packets will be sent home before Christmas break. Program begins January 8.

Open Floor

Nothing for open floor.

Adjourn at 3:15 pm