



ELK PLAIN K-8 PTA NEWSLETTER

2016/2017 PTA OFFICERS

PRESIDENT:

Crystal Green, cowgirl-73@msn.com

CO-VICE PRESIDENTS:

Chrissy Gries, gncgries@gmail.com
Christine Link, christinelink@yahoo.com

TREASURER:

Christie McMahill, christiemcmahill@gmail.com

SECRETARY:

Melissa Pate, mpatenkl@gmail.com

NEWSLETTER ENTRIES: christinelink@yahoo.com

Welcome back to school

PTA Meeting Minutes

Elk Plain PTA General Meeting May 10, 2016 • 2:15pm

General meeting minutes were reviewed and approved.

Financial reports were provided and reviewed. An estimated \$16,500 will be carried over to next year. An increase to budgetary item 'Grants' was request to support remaining grant requests for the amount of \$250. Kendra Williamson moved to increase, Jenn Grant seconded and the vote approved the increase.

Chris Clark (teacher/member) presented a grant request for \$250 towards to cost of Chess Club supplies. \$800 total cost paid in part by ASB, Elk Plain Office and PTA with the annual renewal cost to be paid through ASB fundraising. A motion was made by Christina Gries, seconded by Mara Areglo and the vote approved the request.

The 2016/17 budget was reviewed for approval. Melissa Pate moved to approve the presented budget, Chris Clark seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the 2016/17 school year budget.

Mara Areglo, Hospitality Chairperson, requested an increase in expenses for Hospitality to cover costs through the end of the school year by \$200. Chris Clark moved to approve the increase, Christine Link seconded and the vote was unanimous to approve the \$200 increase.

Christine Link, Sustainability, shared that Walmart has provided Elk Plain PTA with a grant for \$500 towards shipping costs to recycle chip bags in the coming year. Terracycle has received 300 pounds in recyclables from Elk Plain this year. The process of applying for Bronze Certification as a Washington Green School is now in the works.

270 yearbooks have been sold. Accepting preorders until Friday 5/13/2016.

Upcoming events include:

Donuts with Dad – May 20th
Field Day - June 3rd.

Adjourned: 2:48pm

Thank you to all who were able to participate!



Membership Drive

Kirsten Bowie, kirsten_bowie@yahoo.com

Now through October 14th only, the PTA is offering a membership bundle which includes a yearbook again! You can still pre-order yearbooks later in the year, but this is your only chance to get your yearbook at cost. Also, waiting until the end of the year to buy one is risky because they are sold on a first come, first served basis.

Cut out the order form to the right and return it in your child's classroom folder with a check made out to EPSOC PTA. We are looking forward to a great membership year!

- > Individual Membership = \$10
- > Couple Membership = \$18
- > Individual + Yearbook = \$29
- > Couple + Yearbook = \$37



from the President

Crystal Green

cowgirl_73@msn.com

Hello and a warm welcome from the Elk Plain PTA!

This is a year of new beginnings at Elk Plain School of Choice. We are now officially a K-8 school. New beginnings can be very exciting. Let's all break out of our shells and try something new!

Families, teachers, and staff are the backbone of our strong and supportive community at Elk Plain. Family involvement is a long tradition at our school and one of its greatest strengths. The more you engage with the school community, the more rewarding your experience at Elk Plain will be. We encourage you to look for opportunities to volunteer and share your experience and talents. Small or big time commitment – there is a place for you!

We have several activities occurring in the next couple of months that are in need of volunteers to help them be successful. Mark your calendars for Goodies with Grandparents, Fall Fundraiser, Book Fair, Fall Carnival and the Annual Food Drive.

*"And now we welcome the new year,
full of things that have never been"*
- Rainer Maria Rilke

Sincerely,
Crystal Green
EPSOC PTA President



Goodies with Grandparents!

Goodies with Grandparents is an
EPSOC PTA Annual Event!

VH

This year the event will be held on:

**September 23, 2016
7:00 - 7:45am**

Students get to celebrate their grandparents during this special event by having breakfast with them before heading off to class. Food and drinks will be provided by the PTA.

Donations and Volunteers needed for the event.

For questions or to volunteer please contact:
Teresa Lewis at lewitere@aol.com
or Jessica Young at young.jess.m@gmail.com



Fall Fundraiser

Chrissy Gries

gncgries@gmail.com



**October
4th - 24th**



*Estimated Delivery
Mid-November*

Cherrydale Gift Catalogs will be our fall fundraiser again along with Otis Spunkmeyer Cookies!!
Look for more information coming home soon.



2016/17 EPSOC PTA MEMBERSHIP DRIVE 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 Card Ad: \$25
- 1/4 page Business Ad \$50

Membership Bundle Prices through October 14th

- Individual + Yearbook Preorder = \$29
- Couple + Yearbook Preorder = \$37

I would also like _____ additional yearbooks at \$19 each

Grand Total Submitted \$_____

VH = Opportunity for Volunteer Hours = Recycling Available

SEPT/OCT EVENTS

- >> **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Tuesday, Sept. 6th, 2:15pm
Elk Plain Library
- >> **Tea & Tissues** (in Elk Plain Gym) VH
Wednesday, Sept. 7th, 7:45am
Jessica Young, young.jess.m@gmail.com
Teresa Lewis, lewitere@aol.com
- >> **PTA Membership Meeting** VH
Tuesday, Sept. 13th, 2:15pm
EPSOC Library
- >> **Goodies with Grandparents** VH
Friday, Sept. 23rd, 7:00am
Jessica Young, young.jess.m@gmail.com
Teresa Lewis, lewitere@aol.com
- >> **Beautification** VH
Saturday, Oct. 1st, 10am - 12pm
Debbie Townsend-Schmidt, rockola@q.com
- >> **PTA Fundraiser: Cherrydale Catalogs** VH
Tuesday, October 4-24th
Chrissy Gries, gncgries@gmail.com
- >> **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Tuesday, October 4th, 2:15pm
Elk Plain Library
- >> **Fall Picture Day**
Thursday, October 6th
- >> **PTA Membership Meeting** VH
Tuesday, October 11th, **6:30pm**
Elk Plain Library
- >> **SCHOLASTIC Book Fair!** VH
October 24th-28th
Volunteers needed for fair and setup/take down!
Shaunna Ruda, shaunnaruda@gmail.com
Sheila Portuguese, portuguese.s@icloud.com
- >> **Staff Appreciation Luncheon** VH
Tuesday, October 25th
Tawnya Paquette, tawnyapaquette@gmail.com
Volunteers and donations needed!
- >> **Fall Carnival** VH
Friday, Oct. 28th, 4:30-7:30pm
Michelle Davis, closer919@msn.com
Volunteers and donations needed!

early NOVEMBER EVENTS

- >> **Annual Food Drive** VH
Monday, Oct. 31 - Friday, Nov. 18th
Suzette Ebbinga, smebbinga@gmail.com
- >> **PTA Board Meeting** VH
Tuesday, November 1st, 2:15pm
Elk Plain Library
- >> **Beautification** VH
Sunday, Nov. 4th, 10am - 12pm
Debbie Townsend-Schmidt, rockola@q.com
- >> **PTA Membership Meeting** VH
Tuesday, November 8th, 2:15pm
Elk Plain Library

America's Best Idea

Hanging around for one hundred years is a fairly significant feat for anyone, or anything. This past August (August 25th to be exact) what has been called "America's Best Idea" turned one hundred years old - The National Park Service. It wasn't that there weren't any National Park Lands set-aside before then, there were (Yellowstone was set aside for the greater good in 1872), but before Aug. 25, 1916, we didn't have an agency committed to protecting these special places.

Think about what was going on in the United States one hundred years ago. In 1916...

- Henry Ford had only been making cars for 8 yrs.
- A Boeing Aircraft flew for the 1st time
- Oreo cookies & the zipper were both just invented
- Charlie Chaplin was making silent films
- Europe was embroiled in the beginnings of WWI
- Coca-Cola introduced its "new" formula
- Roald Dahl & Beverly Cleary (children's authors) were born (Beverly Cleary is still alive!)
- Presidential Elections were being held (Woodrow Wilson was elected President on a progressive platform)

Some things have REALLY changed. In 1916...

- Women did not have the right to vote
- Band-Aids weren't invented (we used gauze & tape)
- The Boston Red Sox beat the Brooklyn Robins in the World Series
- People only lived, on average, to about 50 yrs. old

Pretty amazing to consider the foresight it took to establish special places that remain in perpetuity for all Americans to enjoy and be protected from harm. Yellowstone National Park is known as the oldest, and some say, the best of the National Park System. I would hope that we all have a chance to pick our favorite, and what we think is the best, National Park.

I experienced Yellowstone for the first time at the age of five (a really long time ago). My family was headed cross country to a new home and stopped along our way to see Old Faithful. It was a marvelous moment etched in my young mind. All those bubbling waters, rotten egg smelling mud pots, and gushing geysers. And the bears... bears by the side of the road, bears in the campgrounds, bears taking food from tourists, and people taking pictures next to the bears. I loved the whole thing. And, I kept going back. Things have changed and I've watched the permutations over decades of visits. The bears are gone from the tourist areas. Mud pots have dried up and new geysers have formed. Old Faithful is still pretty faithful but takes a touch longer than it used to (like so many of us :-). But for all the changes I still feel like that five year old when I drive through the Arch at Mammoth into America's best idea.

The point of the National Park Service wasn't too keep all the natural areas the same, but to protect them so they can change, whatever way they will - without interference.

What will the next one hundred years bring? Self-driving cars? Embedded microphones? A journey to Mars? All that might happen but there will also still be national places with unique vistas, natural features, historical significance, and protected flora & fauna, for all to see and experience... thanks to the wisdom of our country one hundred years ago in forming the National Park Service. Here's to the next 100 yrs.!

Centennially yours,
Georgina Gryc Park
georginapark@hotmail.com



 **Staff Appreciation**

VH

The Staff Appreciation Committee supports Elk Plain staff with fun events and donations throughout the year.

Our first big event is the Staff Appreciation Luncheon on
Tuesday, October 25th

The Staff Appreciation Committee provides lunch for teachers on the full day of conferences. Parents donate homemade or store-bought dishes & earn volunteer hours for their efforts.

Please contact Tawnya Paquette at tawnyapaquette@gmail.com if you are interested in volunteering and/or making donations.

{upcoming}

Beautification Dates 

VH

Please join us as we help keep Elk Plain's campus neat and tidy! Students needing to fulfill community service hours are also welcome.

Saturday, October 1-10 am to Noon
Sunday, November 4-10 am to Noon

March, April and May dates will be posted in January 2016.

Contact Debbie Townsend-Schmidt at rockola@q.com with any questions.

Mrs. Park

gpark@bethelsd.org

You are invited to the first monthly meeting of the:

Elk Plain Book Club

Monday, September 19, 2016

5:30 - 6:30 pm

Elk Plain Library

This is a monthly book club for students and their parents/other adults, who enjoy reading and discussing books of all genres. Our book selections are aimed at Middle School choices and we read 1 book per month. Students interested, but without an adult, should come anyway!

(This first meeting is a planning meeting. If you need to bring a snack, or a drink, or even dinner, feel free!)

Everyone should bring the last book they read and any ideas for books you would like to read for Book Club. If you are interested but cannot attend Sept. 19 please contact Mrs. Park and let her know.

FALL CARNIVAL IS COMING!



Friday, October 28th
from 4:30 - 7:30 pm

VH

If you are interested in volunteering or making goodie donations please contact:

Michelle Davis at closer919@msn.com

Watch for flyers in Friday folders!

 **2016 - 2017**
POPCORN FRIDAYS

VH

Popcorn Friday is a lunchtime tradition at Elk Plain School of Choice. Each Friday that lunch is served, popcorn is sold during recess. A bag of popcorn costs 25¢ and all proceeds are used to sustain this favorite Friday fun! Popcorn sales will begin Friday September 16, 2016.

Volunteers are always needed for popcorn Fridays. Popcorn volunteers work outside on the playground from 9:30 am to 12:30 pm and must have current paid PTA membership. On-the-job training is available to everyone interested in becoming a popcorn committee volunteer. For the first trimester, volunteers are needed for the Fridays listed below.

September 16, 23, 30
October 14 and 21
November 4 and 18
December 2, 9, 16

If you are available from 9:30am to 12:30pm
any of those Fridays, please contact:

Jenn Black at drjlynnblack@yahoo.com
or text 253.545.8666.

Jenn will arrange for any necessary training and place you on the popcorn committee schedule according to your request. Thank you for dedicating your time and allowing this favorite tradition to continue!

 **NEW Spirit Wear**

Exciting news!!! We have a new school logo!



We have added several new clothing styles and all styles are now available in black or gray. We also offer water bottles and backpacks to start off the school year.

Every Wednesday is spirit day at EPSOC. Spirit wear is a great way to show your Sky Warrior pride and unity.

Order forms are available in the main and PTA offices.

Please contact Gina Sawyer at ginasawyer@comcast.net if you have any questions.



Christine Link

christinelink@yahoo.com

Let's rePETe +22!

I scoured all the news sources I could find this summer and it appears world leaders have not yet found a solution to trash and landfill use. So, it looks like we have our work cut out for us again this year! We had such tremendous success last year that with just a little refinement we plan to "rePETe" another successful year beginning with an assembly in mid-September celebrating our bronze certification as a Washington Green School!

In the recycled plastics world PET stands for polyethylene terephthalate, the type of plastic used to make water bottles and other #1 recyclables.

This year's goal: 68,000 TerraCycle pieces. Last year we collected 53,000 TerraCycle items which was almost 1 piece for every seat in Century Link Field. This year our goal is to actually collect 1 piece for every seat in Century Link Field which is 68,000. That's where the +22 comes in. If every student and staff brings in 22 more pieces than they did last year then we can reach our goal. That doesn't mean buying 22 more items just to recycle the packaging. It means collecting from places like youth sporting events, Girl and Boy Scouts, birthday parties, neighbors, extended family and offices. Look for some helpful scripts on the Green Team page at the PTA website to get you started. Who knows... if we reach our goal maybe we can be recognized during a game!

Check out the new and improved Green Team page on the Elk Plain PTA website: epsocpta.org/green-team.html

Looking forward to another great year of green practices and excited kids!

To sign up for PTA reminds please go to the following link:

www.remind.com/join/elkplai



ELK PLAIN ANNUAL
FOOD Drive

Suzette Ebbinga

smebbinga@gmail.com



Welcome Back Sky Warriors!

Before you know it fall will be in the air and with it the return of Elk Plain's annual food drive contest. The food drive will run for three weeks; October 31st - November 18th. Look for more details to be sent home mid October.

Want to volunteer? We'd love your help!

Contact Suzette at smebbinga@gmail.com
or Angie at jsaj8103@yahoo.com



After School Program
Drop-in Lessons
Day and Summer Camps
Group Programs
Field Trips
Birthday Parties

Four Star Farm is a small horse farm located in Graham, WA. Sharon Lulham's youth programs help children develop teamwork, responsibility, confidence, and communication skills in everyday life.

Riding instills balance, correct posture, focus, and confidence. Working with horses promotes trust, compassion and forgiveness. The end result: self esteem.

Based on Pony Club principles, activities include riding lessons, horse management and safety, stable management, grooming, games, and crafts.

All levels welcome!

Sharon Lulham, Owner
253-847-0783 • 253-320-9591 cell
www.kidsfourstarfarm.com