



ELK PLAIN School of Choice

PTA Newsletter

www.epsocpta.org



February 2014

Your 2013/2014 PTA Officers

Co-Presidents

Melissa Pate
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mpatenkl@gmail.com

Christina Gries
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Vice President

Kendra Williamson
253-847-4297
kand3bees@hotmail.com

Financial Officer

Naoko Geforos
253-846-1044
witnit@msn.com

Secretary

Michelle Davis
253-537-3216
closer919@msn.com

Newsletter Entries

Christine Link
christinelink@yahoo.com

CO-PRESIDENTS

Melissa Pate + Christina Gries

We'd like to send out a special Valentine message to all of the fabulous EPSOC PTA Committee Chairpersons who put hours and hours of effort into making our events and programs successful. There are over 20 members on the Committee Roster this year and each of those chairpersons has their own team. We have really enjoyed every opportunity to get to know and work side by side with the folks who go the extra mile for our kids! Thank you from the bottom of our grateful hearts!



fers thorough training classes throughout the year that are free of cost to you and makes the details about roles and responsibilities easy to understand. Many EPSOC parents already have a wealth of PTA knowledge. Also consider that any position can be held as a co-position if you want to share the responsibilities. If you are organized, enjoy meeting new people, and are up for a new challenge, consider a position on the Executive Board. Although we as Co-Presidents are involved to

This is also the time of year we reflect on the school year so far. What is working so far and where are the areas for improvement? Then we look to the future and plan for the next school year. How can we get more families to attend PTA events? How can we attain our goal of 100% participation in Read and Lead? What can we do now to set up a successful next school year?

some extent with each event and program, we DO NOT keep a cot in the storage room!

The Nominating Committee will be sending home nomination forms soon. You can either nominate yourself or nominate someone else you feel would make next year's PTA a great success. Official nominations take place at the March General Membership Meeting with elections taking place at the April General Membership Meeting. If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to ask!

As per the EPSOC PTA Standing Rules, the Executive Board positions (President, Vice President, Treasurer, and Secretary) will all need to be replaced for the 2014-2015 school year. Considering any Executive Board position can seem daunting but know that there are systems in place to assist you! The Washington State PTA (WSPTA) of-

Thank you,
Christina Gries
Melissa Pate

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2014/2015 PTA BOARD NOMINATIONS

PTA board nomination forms will go home in February with nominations officially announced and accepted at the March 11th general membership meeting. In the meantime, basic descriptions of each position (President, Vice-President, Treasurer, and Secretary) are listed on page 4.

All PTA training is free to the board and any committee chairs that attend. There are also additional training opportunities in classes that are useful in life, not just PTA. If you don't feel ready to be on the executive board, nominate someone you think would be a good fit, and consider yourself for a committee position. We'd love that, too!

Why not
you for
PTA?

Music • Dance • Art • Drama • Computers • Science

BOX TOPS and LABELS**\$985!**

Our first collection of Box Tops and Labels for Education in October earned our teachers \$985! Thank you for collecting and turning in all those tiny pieces of paper!

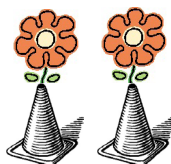
POPCORN Improvements

Our popcorn just got healthier! We are switching suppliers and will start using healthier, non-hydrogenated coconut oil for popping. Samples were handed out to staff recently and it's as good as always--only healthier for our kids.

**SCHOOL Beautification**

Let's Get Digging!

March 1st and
March 8th (if necessary)



The hour of Elk Plain School of Choice renovations is rapidly approaching and we need your help! The island area in the parking lot will be removed as our lot is reconfigured to enhance traffic flow during peak times. There are hundreds of daffodil and crocus bulbs to be salvaged for our new islands and garden area.

Please consider joining the Beautification team on March 1st and March 8th (if necessary) from 9 a.m. to noon to recover these bulbs that past and present Elk Plain students have planted over the years. This is a great way to fulfill your volunteer hours and contribute to the future beauty of our campus.

For more information please email or call Debbie Townsend-Schmidt at rockola@q.com or 253/843-0747.

CREATIVE KIDS at the Spring Fair*April 10-13th*

Countdown to the Creative Kids Exhibit!
Submissions due March 21st

The cold and damp days of our Pacific Northwest winter have set in...what better time to be dreaming about the Spring Fair in Puyallup! Elk Plain Friends of the Arts will be making the annual pilgrimage to deliver our very talented student projects to the Creative Kids Exhibit at the Spring Fair. Many works of art and writing from our students are submitted by Mrs. Lee or classroom teachers, but families are encouraged to submit projects completed at home as well. This is a great way to boost your student's creative confidence!

We are accepting projects in the following categories: Art (painting, drawing, sculpture, mixed media, wood media, computer art), Creative Writing (prose & essays and poetry), Photography, and Paper Crafts & Scrapbooking. Work should be submitted to Mrs. Lee or the office no later than March 21.

A complete list of rules and regulations will be posted on the Fair's website at: www.thefair.com by the end of January. Keep in mind, artists must be at least 6 years old to submit work.

All participants will receive a free gate admission ticket to the Spring Fair! Entries will be displayed for the 4-day run of the Fair from April 10-13 and artwork and awards are also showcased in the entry hall at EPSOC upon their return from the Fair. We hope many of you are able to participate and are excited about the wide variety of unique projects we will see! If you have any questions please email or call Debbie Townsend-Schmidt at rockola@q.com or 253/843-0747.

B-I-N-G-O IS COMING!*March 7th, 6-8:30pm*

Enjoy an inexpensive yet extremely fun family night out at Bingo! Proceeds from Bingo night help to fund PTA events, programs and educational support within Elk Plain School of Choice. There will be food available for purchase, a dessert and basket silent auction, and lots of prizes! Bingo cards are \$5 each or 5 cards for \$20 (cards to be picked up on Bingo night).

Needed:

Volunteers • Donations for prizes • Donations for desserts

Contact Sheila Portuguese • Text 253.381.6954 • Call 253.383.7838 daytime
Call 253.846.3810 evening • portugue.s@ghc.org

STAFF APPRECIATION Luncheon*Tuesday, March 25th*

Calling all chefs, bakers, and grocery shoppers! The PTA sponsored staff appreciation lunch is on Tuesday, March 25th (the full day of conferences). Please let me know if you'd like to show your love for our amazing teachers by donating a dish to the buffet-style event.

Contact Elizabeth Custudio at er_custudio@hotmail.com

LUNCH =

FEBRUARY Events

PTA BOARD Meeting *Wednesday, February 5th, 6pm*

Evening Meeting at 6:00pm

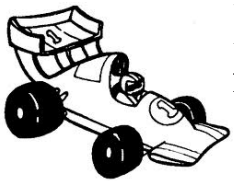
PTA GENERAL MEMBERSHIP Meeting *Tues, Feb. 11th, 6:30pm*

Evening Meeting at 6:30pm

CLOTHING DRIVE CONTINUES... *January 24th-Feb. 24th*

We are giving you a great opportunity to get a jump on your spring cleaning and help out in our community. Our annual clothing drive runs from January 24th-February 24th. Please bring in all your gently used clothing and shoes. The clothing will be donated to Wear It Out. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help please contact Crystal Green cowgirl_73@msn.com.

READ AND LEAD CONTINUES... *January 6th- March 17th*



Race to Read! Pace yourself at 100 minutes per week and you'll reach the finish line of 1000 minutes by March.



Contact Tamara at stahancyktl@gmail.com with questions or to volunteer.

SCIENCE FAIR (STEM SHOWCASE) *February 20th 5:30-7pm*

The Elk Plain School of Choice Science Fair (STEM Showcase) will be held on Thursday, February 20th, from 5:30-7:00PM. In addition to all the great science projects we will have fun science things to do in the science lab, interesting exhibits in the library, and from 6-7pm on the stage a visiting animal from Pt. Defiance Zoo! Come join the fun.

At EPSOC all 4th and 5th grade students are required to do a science fair project involving an experiment. All Kindergarten through 3rd graders are encouraged to do a project, or your classroom teacher may require a science fair project. This is an at-home project and more information is available on your teacher's web page, Mrs. Park's web page, or by emailing Mrs. Park at gpark@bethelsd.org.

STUDENT STORE *Thursdays at lunch recess*

Attention shoppers!

Thank you to all VIP helpers for helping to make this year fun and exciting. Watch for new items, mystery bags, and a very special Valentine adoption coming soon!

VALENTINE

ADOPTION!



...Upcoming

MARCH

Bulb Digging 1st and 8th

Bingo Night 7th

Read and Lead Ends 17th

Read and Lead Ice Cream Party 21st

Creative Kids submissions due 21st

Conferences and Book Fair 24-28th

Staff Appreciation Lunch 25th

Read and Lead Assembly 28th

Where to Earn

Volunteer Hours in February

- help at A/R club Mondays after school
- help at Science Night
- help collect/count clothing in PTA room during clothing drive
- count minutes and move race cars for Read and Lead Monday mornings
- help label and distribute Read and Lead prizes
- help plan Bingo Night (portuguese@ghc.org)
- Field Day Planning (epsocfieldday@comcast.net)
- help with student store on Thursdays (ginasawyer@comcast.net)
- assist arts team with productions (mgilmour@bethelsd.org)
- attend PTA meetings

REGISTER AND VOTE

by February 11th!

We will be asked to vote on a new School Technology Levy and the renewal of an expiring School Programs and Operations Levy. If you are not registered to vote please take a few minutes to do so, then vote yes on Feb 11th! Levy dollars pay for 23% of the daily budget used in schools and is the funding we need to make EPSOC a K-8.



Hello my wonderful parent volunteers! I just wanted to send a shout out to all who donated time to help with Staff Appreciation!

*Dawn Calkins, Melissa Pate, Naoko Geforos, Jen Wrye, Linley Storm, Tamara Stah-
ancyk, Amy Espino, Christina Powell, Heather Bahrt,
Kendra Williamson, Michelle Davis, Bev Rarey and
Christine Link.*

—Thank you so much! Elizabeth Custodio

**THANK YOU
VOLUNTEERS...**



Thank you Read And Lead volunteers!

Elizabeth Custodio for helping with decorating the board. Melissa and Noreen for helping with laminating and cutting race cars. Melissa for helping with putting read and lead packets together. Christina Gries

for helping with Apple Bees coupons.

—Tamara

Thank you Bev Rarey for all your work helping organize and get ready for Science Night. —Mrs. Park

A BIG THANK YOU to all of the wonderful volunteers that helped make Holiday Shop 2013 happen. We had another great year because of you! It is so much fun to watch the kids pick out special gifts for the people they love. Thank you to the following people for volunteering to set up, help the kids shop, and tear down (apologies if I missed anyone!) Alina Perdue, Elizabeth Custodio, Melissa Pate, Naoka Geforos, Jill and Sam Smithson, Dorothy Tuck, Cami Brandt, Tamara Sheppard, Jill Seeberger, Suzette Ebbinga, Crystal Green, Christina Black, Gina Sawyer, Nadina Misola, Trisha Chambers, Kristi Bodnar, Angela Mills, Tammi and Izzy Booth, Karly & McKynzie Olson, Arvin, Isabelle, and Mia Romero, Brooks and Baylie Williamson, Dawn Calkins, and Angie McLaughlin. Super special thanks to my behind the scenes elves, Bev Rarey, Bernie Williamson, and Brenda Romero, who help me shop, price, and assemble all year long!

—Kendra Williamson, Holiday Shop Chair

PTA EXECUTIVE BOARD Job Descriptions

Below are descriptions of each board position described in practical terms. An official description of each position is available at the WSPTA website: http://www.wastatepta.org/leadership/leadership_packet/packet_index.html. Contact Christine Link (christinelink@yahoo.com), Crystal Green (cowgirl_73@msn.com), or Gina Sawyer (ginasawyer@comcast.net) with questions.

PRESIDENT(S)

A good candidate is someone who has been with the school for a few years, is organized, and works well with others. President creates and implements the annual calendar, signs contracts, presides over the board and general meetings and makes sure organization operates within the standing rules. Required PTA training.

VICE PRESIDENT(S)

Vice President is basically available to step in when the President is unavailable. Still needs to attend all the meetings and be aware of what's happening but also participates in events and activities. Required to go to training.

SECRETARY(S)

Secretary is responsible for attending every meeting, taking appropriate notes and having them prepared for approval and filing. Keeps up the secretary notebook and makes it available for times when PTA needs to research historical PTA events/meetings. Required to go to training.

TREASURER(S)

Treasurer is self explanatory but the most important thing is filing taxes on time, non-profit paperwork with the state and keeping extremely detailed records of every transaction in and out of the PTA accounts. Required and very helpful to go to training.

Thank you to all the volunteers that helped with the Fall Carnival this year! It was a great success. Thank you to all that helped baked for the cake walk, the kids loved their treats. A special thanks to the popcorn ladies for providing free popcorn to all the carnival kiddos. Also a special thanks to Marlee, Shannon, Chrissy, and Melissa for all your help and making this carnival a great success this year!

-Thanks, Jennifer

... YOU ARE THE  OF THE PTA

I would like to thank all of the wonderful volunteers that make Pop-corn Fridays at Elk Plain possible: Jennifer Black, Teresita Custer, Shannon Minihan, Tina Mitchell, Sharon DeForrest, Krystal Ripka.

And a special thank you to some people who stepped in at the last minute to help out on a Friday so we wouldn't have to cancel: Rebekah Texiera, Melissa Pate, Somboon Lathrop, Noreen Kim. You are all wonderful! -Shannon

Melissa Pate

Your dedication to the children of Elk Plain shines through in all you do!

Thank you!

Thank you to everyone who helped make the Fall Bookfair such a success! We were able to break \$5000 in sales, which is fantastic! Thank you again to: Melissa Pate, Bev Rarey, Jenn Black, Karen Mays, Suzette Ebbinga, Trisha Chambers, Sheila Portuguese, Christine DePostier, Melissa Dixon, Kendra Williamson, Katherine Leitch, Jill Seeberger, Karla Ketter, Linbey Storm and Crystal Green! You are Appreciated! -Kirsten

● **FIELD DAY 2014!**

Help! Calling all volunteers!

It's that time of year when we must start planning our year end activities. Field Day is a major event that is highly anticipated by students. In order to be successful on Field Day we will need several volunteers! Please contact Lisa Beck at: Epsocfieldday@comcast.net if you are willing to help with the planning or preparation of Field Day. We will plan a meeting in the next few weeks. Thank you!

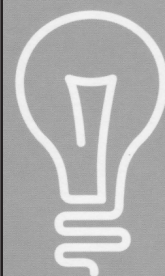


Child Care and Learning Center

**Corrie Robbins
Betty Goins**

**17815 7th Ave Ct. E.
Spanaway, WA 98387
253-847-5796**

**Ages: Infants - 12
Hour: 6am - 5:30pm
Monday-Friday**



CBK ELECTRICAL INC
Commercial/Residential/Security Systems

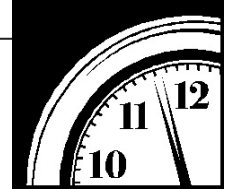
Chris Katzer
Owner

ckatzer09@gmail.com
www.cbkelectricalinc.com
406 168th St S
Spanaway, WA 98387
206-679-5164

Lic:cbkelei888mp
Ubi:603-189-557

PTA General Meeting Minutes

EPSOC General Membership Meeting November 27th 2013



Quorum: Yes

Meeting called to order: 6:35pm

Minutes were reviewed. Christine Link motioned to approve, Kendra Williamson seconded. Minutes were voted on, approved and filed. Budget was reviewed and filed.

New Business:

-Jennifer Harisson discussed (as a rep. for "Bethel Citizens for School Support", not as a staff member) the impact of the 2014 Levy. If passed it would increase the current rate by .97 per \$1000 of income. This money would support among other things, school programs and Operations. Please vote!

-Becky Ortega made a motion for the PTA members to discuss the Levy, Staci Sherrod seconded. Motion was passed and the Levy was discussed by members.

-Door prizes were awarded.

-Brenda Pattee requested a Grant to renew the AR Program. The cost is \$3,383.04. Staci Sherrod motioned to approve the grant, Christina Plack seconded. Motion was approved.

Committee Reports:

-Holiday Shop setup is December 9th at 6pm. It will run Tuesday through Friday from 7:15am-2:15pm. Volunteers would be appreciated. Wish lists will go home Friday the 6th.

-Book fair profits were \$250 more than expected with a total earning of \$1,250.

-We are in need of new Board Members for next year. Please spread the word.

-“Adopt a Penguin” will be available at the Student Store beginning next Monday.

-The theme for this year's Field Day will be “Survivor”.

Upcoming Events:

-Read & Lead will begin January 6th. “Race to Read” is the theme. Lots of volunteer opportunities for this 10 week event!

-Hoping to do a McTeacher Night sometime in January.

Open Floor:

-Suzette spoke about a potential Family Fun Night idea, doing an “Impact Night” to serve in the community. Some ideas are that families could make up meals for impoverished areas or make cards for soldiers serving abroad.

Next General Meeting will be Tuesday January 14th at 2pm.

Meeting adjourned at 7:59pm.

FOUR STAR FARM

Graham, WA

After School Program

Riding Lessons

Day and Summer Camps

Group Programs

Field Trips

Birthday Parties



www.kidsfsf.com

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 • Graham, WA

253-847-0783 • 253-320-9591 cell

ELK PLAIN SCHOOL OF CHOICE PTA

OFFICERS 2013-14

President	Melissa Pate	(253)861-5226	mpatenkl@gmail.com
President	Christina Gries	(253)221-3263	gncgries@gmail.com
Vice President	Kendra Williamson	(253)847-4297	kand3bees@hotmail.com
Treasurer	Naoko Geforos	(253)846-1044	witnit@msn.com
Secretary	Michelle Davis	(253)537-3216	closer919@msn.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

Beautification	Debbie Townsend-Schmidt	(253)843-0747	rockola@q.com
Bingo Night	Sheila Portugue	(253)381-6954	portugue.s@ghc.org
Book Fairs	Kirsten Bowie	(253)254-2949	kirsten_bowie@yahoo.com
Box Tops <i>and</i>	Dione Savage &	(253)375-7579	dionesavage@gmail.com
Campbell's Soup Labels	Carrie Hughes	(253)312-9133	starcarebear@yahoo.com
Fall Carnival	Jennifer Grant	(253)380-7400	jgrant@bethelsd.org
Families in Need/Food Drive	Crystal Green	(253)875-8657	cowgirl_73@msn.com
Family Fun Nights			
Field Day	Gina Sawyer & Lisa Beck	253-686-8368	ginasawyer@comcast.net
Fundraising	Stacy Legg	(858)204-8049	stacylynn12925@yahoo.com
Golden Acorn	Debbie Townsend-Schmidt	(252)843-0747	rockola@q.com
Holiday Shop	Bev Rarey	(253)847-4297	bjrgrandma@aol.com
Laminating			
Legislation	Stacy Legg		stacylynn12925@yahoo.com
Memberhsip	Noreen Kim	(253)875-1405	kmakalanik@hotmail.com
Newsletter	Christine Link		christinelink@yahoo.com
Popcorn	Shannon Gregory	(253)227-1226	epic@qwiknet.com
Programs/Assemblies	Georgina Park	(253)683-7900	gpark@bethelsd.org
Proof Reading	Georgina Park	(253)683-7900	gpark@bethelsd.org
Read & Lead	Tamara Stahancyk	(253)376-8369	stahancyktl@gmail.com
Reflections	Debbie Townsend-Schmidt	(253)843-0747	rockola@q.com
Safety Committee	Naoko Geforos	(253)846-1044	witnit@msn.com
School Pictures	Johanna Clark	(253)846-2965	wannajd@live.com
Science Night	Bev Rarey		bjrgrandma@aol.com
Staff Appreciation	Elizabeth Custodio	(253)330-6582	er_custodio@hotmail.com
Hospitality/Baking	Becky Ortega	(253)843-2129	becca619@live.com
Student Store	Gina Sawyer	(253)686-8368	ginasawyer@comcast.net
T-Shirts & Logo Wear	Stacy Legg	(858)204-8049	stacylynn12925@yahoo.com
Yearbook	Kendra Wiliamson & Krystal Ripka	((253)847-4297 (253)651-9925	kand3bees@hotmail.com kmripka@hotmail.com



ELK PLAIN PTA FEBRUARY 2014



Events Calendar

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	Clothing Drive Continues					1
2	3	4	5 Late Start PTA Board Meeting 6:00 pm	6	7	8
	Week 5 of Read and Lead					
9	10	11 PTA General Membership Meeting, 6:30pm	12	13	14	15
	Week 6 of Read and Lead					
16	17	18	19	20 Science Fair (STEM) Night 5:30-7pm	21	22
	Week 7 of Read and Lead					
23	24 Clothing Drive Ends	25	26	27	28	
	Week 8 of Read and Lead					



EPSOC PTA Membership Form

To become a member complete this form and return to your child's teacher with payment.

Name: _____ Address: _____

Email: _____ Phone: _____

Children/Teacher(s): _____

Individual: \$10 Couple: \$18 Business: (card \$25) (1/4 page \$50) (1/2 page \$100)