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Your 2015/2016 PTA Officers

President: Crystal Green, cowgirl_73@msn.com

Co-Vice Presidents Christie McMahill, christiemcmahill@gmail.com Jennifer Grant, grantsrnj@msn.com

> Financial Officer: Melissa Pate, mpatenkl@gmail.com

Secretary: Holly Ingram, hollyaguon@yahoo.com

Newsletter Entries: christinelink@yahoo.com

• PTA Meeting Minutes

May 20th, 2015 General Membership Meeting Minutes **EPSOC Library**

Called to Order @ 2:23pm.

Quorum was met at this meeting.

Guest Speaker: Mr. Knaack- Resource Conservation Manager for Bethel School District gave a presentation on how he could help us with our conservation efforts at the school. The program is a student lead/adult supervised effort and individualized to meet the school needs. The program includes older children teaching the younger children recycling,

Guest Speaker: Anne-Sophie Montgomery- TerraCycle- a program that takes in things that are not commonly recycled. It does give back points and can be exchanged for money or goods on the website. The items are time and item specific and only allow 1 shipment per brigade/member.* We would be looking at encouraging families to collect at home as well. We would have children collect in classrooms and then bring to a collection point. TerraCycle will create an account as a PTA.

Melissa Pate motions to create a Sustainability Committee and Mrs. Sherrod seconds. All approve with none opposedmotion was passed.

Christina Gries motions to add \$250.00 to the Sustainability Committee for startup costs and Holly Ingram seconds. All approve and none opposed- motion was passed.

New Budget was presented and reviewed. Crystal Green motions to approve the budget as presented and Kendra Williamson seconds. All approved and none opposed- motion was passed.

PTA has \$66 in Box Top Money. Mrs. Park expressed interest in that money for the purchase of binoculars for students. Gina Sawyer motions to give the Box Top money to Mrs. Park with Kendra Williamson seconding. All approve with none opposed-motion was passed.

Donuts with Dad: Went great with over 500 parents.

Field Day: Asia Pacific Cultural Center will be sending visiting teachers to teach our children dances. Bounce Houses were district approved and we have over 60 volunteers. Field Day T-Shirts will also be coming in this week.

Next meeting will be Wednesday June 2nd, 2015 @ 2:15 pm in the EPSOC Library.

Meeting was adjourned @ 3:24pm.

[*Editor's Note: See Sustainability Committee article for more accurate information discovered since this meeting.]

PRESIDENT

Crystal Green cowgirl_73@msn.com

 $oldsymbol{1}$ would like to take this opportunity to welcome back our returning students and families to Elk Plain and also extend a very heartfelt welcome to our new Elk Plain families. I look forward to making 2015-2016 a fun and productive year. Our stu-

dents are so fortunate to be enrolled in a school with an outstanding administration and exceptional teachers.

To the PTA Executive board, committee chair leaders and all of our volunteers, I look forward to working with all of you this school year, some

for the first time. I know we will have a great year because of the dedicated and amazing volunteers we have on the PTA.

Every year I hear a few parents say they don't feel connected to the school or know what's going on. With busy schedules all around, I understand it's not easy to keep on top of all the activities. The PTA Board will be doing our best to communicate school activities more regularly and concisely. We are planning regular emails and Facebook posts, with short reminders of what's happening in the school. You can also check our website www.epsocpta.org.

An effective and successful PTA requires support and involvement of the parents of our students. It is vital. Your first opportunity to show support is to become a member of the EPSOC PTA. We have created a yearbook/membership discount good through the middle of October. We encourage each of you to show your commitment by joining.

We have lots of fun activities planned for the year, but we cannot do it without our wonderful volunteers. Many parents feel that they cannot participate in the PTA because they cannot attend meetings or be at school during the day. Whether you have 30 minutes or a couple of hours in or outside of school hours, your ideas, your time, and your talents are truly needed. There are endless possibilities in ways you can help. Research shows that students whose parents are involved in their education have better grades and fewer discipline problems. We promise that the time you give to the PTA and the school will be worth your while—and fun! Please consider volunteering, it really does make a difference in the lives of all our children!

We would like to thank you in advance for your support. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact us. Have a wonderful school year and we look forward to seeing you at our PTA potluck in September.

Sincerely, Crystal Green

MEMBERSHIP DRIVE Christie McMahill christiemcmahill@gmail.com

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m T}$ hrough October 16th only, 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 below 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

₩H=Opportunity for Volunteer Hours 🛞 = Recycling available

SEPT/OCT Events

• PTA WELCOME POTLUCK! Thursday, September 17th, 5:30pm, EPSOC Gym

GOODIES with GRANDPARENTS

Friday, September 25th, 7-7:35am Mara Areglo, cmareglo@yahoo.com

PTA FUNDRAISER: Cherrydale Catalogs October 2rd-23rd $\mathbb{W}\mathbb{H}$ Jennifer Grant, grantsrnj@msn.com

FALL PICTURE DAY

Tuesday, October 6th

PTA BOARD MEETING Tuesday, October 6th, 2:15, EPSOC Library

PTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING Tuesday, October 13th, 2:15, EPSOC Library

MOVIE NIGHT!

Friday, October 16th, 7:00pm

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

October 26th-30th Volunteers needed for fair and setup/take down!

STAFF APPRECIATION LUNCHEON

Tuesday, October 27st WH Jayme Roberts, jroberts0769@gmail.com PTA provides lunch for teachers on the full day of conferences. Parents donate home made or store-bought dishes and earn volunteer hours for their efforts.

FALL CARNIVAL

Friday, October 30th, 4:30-7:30pm Michelle Davis, closer919@msn.com Volunteers, candy for prizes, and baked goods for cake walk needed!

EARLY NOVEMBER Events

ANNUAL FOOD DRIVE

November 2nd- 20th Suzette Ebbinga, smebbinga@gmail.com

PTA BOARD MEETING Tuesday, November 3rd, 2:15, EPSOC Library

PTA <u>EVENING</u> MEMBERSHIP MEETING ¹ Tuesday, November 10th, 6:30pm, EPSOC Library

FALL FUNDRAISER

Jennifer Grant grantsrnj@msn.com

Cherrydale Farms entertainment

October 2nd - 23rd Estimated Delivery Mid- November

Cherrydale gift catalogs will be our fall fundraiser again with an exciting addition: Cherrydale also sells Entertainment Book Apps. Enjoy the same savings as the books but with an app! More info to

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	City:	Zip:
mail:	Phone:	
nild(ren)/Teacher(s):		
	Standard Membership Fees	
☐ Individual: \$10 ☐		□1/4 page \$50
	Standard Membership Fees	. 10 *

Theater • Music Dance • Art • Technology • Science

DIVERSIONS from Mrs. Park

The Passing of Summer

It is with a heavy heart that I announce the passing of Summer 2015. We all knew, and loved, Summer 2015. There is a bittersweet part to its going, even though we knew that Summer's time had come. Summer 2015 was a late bloomer. We wished it had matured earlier, as many parents of such children do. And when it did arrive we had to wait a time before we could partake in Summer 2015's playful side.

As with so many individuals, Summer 2015 meant different things to different people. Many enjoyed Summer's warmer nature and took Summer to the pool, lake, ocean, or river. Some of us saw Summer 2015 as an irritating neighbor who kept blowing things into our yard and never picking anything up. There are always those who never understand Summer's sense of humor and are continuously looking to Winter or Spring for sympathetic support. I always believed that Summer 2015 loved to bask and brighten everyone's outdoor activities and events. Summer particularly enjoyed weddings because then Summer could truly shine, kissing the bride on the cheek.

For me Summer 2015 was the best traveling buddy anyone could have. We traipsed across the Pacific Northwest, traveled to Yellowstone, drove to Minnesota and California. All of Summer's dazzling sunlight allowed for observing a grizzly bear along a Yellowstone road, blazing sunsets across a lake, hours of outside reading, and seeing the world go by as Summer and I drove across the landscape.

We even ventured, Summer 2015 and I, on a solo journey to London, England, where we used all Summer's daylight to partake of endless sights. Together, we walked through Kensington Gardens, where J.M. Barrie's story of a lost boy who finds Neverland begins, and is the location of Peter Pan's statue. Due to Summer 2015's long

days I was able to spend 15 hours taking the train, and then a car, to behold Stonehenge, Oxford, and an original copy of the Magna Carta. I will never forget Summer 2015 and all the good times we enjoyed.

With the passing of Summer 2015 we must acknowledge the birth of someone else, Autumn. Autumn 2015 sets the stage for the renewal of the New Year. Autumn isn't about things falling down but rather a starting point for the rest we deserve before the onslaught of Winter.

Ah, Summer 2015, I knew it well. The remembrances of this particular Summer will stay with me forever although it might fade from other's minds. Summer 2015 and me, we were buds ~ close friends who experienced many a happy day. It is with melancholy feelings I note the passing of Summer 2015 ~ joyful in having known this wonderful Summer but sad to let it go.

I wonder what Autumn will be like?

Here's to finding out, Georgina Gryc Park

What Shall I Pack in the Box Marked "Summer"?

A handful of wind that I caught with a kite A firefly's flame in the dark of the night The green grass of June that I tasted with toes The flowers 9 knew from the tip of my nose The clink of ice cubes in pink lemonade The fourth of July Independence parade! The sizzle of hot dogs, the fizzle of coke Some pickles and mustard and barbecue smoke The print of my fist in the palm of my mitt, As I watched for the batter to strike out or hit The splash of the water, the top-to-toe cool Of a stretch-and-kick trip through a blue swimming pool The tangle of night songs that slipped through my screen Of crickets and insects too small to be seen The seed pods that formed on the flowers to say That Summer was packing her treasures away.

Bobbi Katz

HELP WANTED! PTA REFLECTIONS CHAIR

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR CHAIR

Reflections is the annual arts competition sponsored by the National PTA. Chairperson would send home information to families about this year's theme, collect the entries and submit winning EPSOC art to district level. Deadline is usually mid November.

Scholastic Book Fair chairperson organizes and oversees the book fair 2 weeks per year (Fall and Spring).

Contact Crystal Green for more info: cowgirl_73@msn.com

STUDENT STORE

Gina Sawver

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ginasawyer@comcast.net

We are excited to open student store and cannot wait to see all of you! More information on our opening date to follow.

In order to make this year's store a success, we are in need of volunteers. Due to lack of help last year, we found it difficult to open consistently for our students and had a hard time getting through the lines. This year we would really like to be open every week. In order for that to happen we are desperately seeking volunteers. Please contact Gina Sawyer and put yourself on the schedule if you are able

SPIRIT WEAR

Naoko Geforos

253-314-8424 (text), witnit@msn.com

Our spirit wear is back to the EPSOC circle design! An order form will go home by the middle of September. We are still selling spirit wear with the old design (graffiti) during September only.

MUSEUM DAY LIVE! SATURDAY, SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2015

This is an annual event hosted by Smithsonian Magazine in which participating museums across the country open their doors for free to anyone and a guest with a Museum Day Ticket! Go to: www.smithsonianmag.com/museumday

or the Smithsonian Magazine webpage to print your ticket.

Following are just a few of the participating area museums: The Lewis Army Museum, MoHi, Museum of Flight, Tacoma Art Museum, Museum of Glass, and Washington State History Museum. For the complete of participating museums in the area go to the Smithsonian website.

SUSTAINABILITY

Christine Link

WH christinelink@yahoo.com

My has the Sustainability Committee taken off! What started as a committment to recycling plastic water bottles from PTA events has turned into a whole-school, student-led endeavor. Not only are we

increasing our recycling at PTA events but we are beginning the Terracycle collection process during lunch and at home.

We have learned a lot about Terracycle since the Sustainability Committee was approved last May. We have confirmed that we can collect any brand of brigade item (see list below) and we can send as many shipments as we like that meet the minimum weight requirment. Each shipment earns the PTA money or credit towards cool upcycled Terracycle products.

Besides earning money for the PTA, there are so many other reasons to take on this project including increasing awareness of waste production, reducing our carbon footprint and giving our students a place to take on leadership roles. I can't wait to get started!

Are you a family who prepares zero-waste lunches? You can still contribute your recyclables from home (how-to flyer coming soon), but we plan to have rewards for these students, too. We are also looking for parents who can help during lunch collection 2 or 3 times per year or during evening events. All time spent goes toward volunteer hours!

Now Collecting

-drink pouches -fruit puree pouches -foil-lined energy bar wrappers -cereal bags and plastic cereal box liners

-chip/snack bags (any size) -toothbrushes, toothpaste tubes, floss boxes,

deodorant bottles and soap packaging (all with caps)

BOX TOPS, ETC.

Gaby Makinster makinster1@comcast.net









This year we will continue to collect box tops and soup labels with one great change: soup labels now allows us to buy \$25 visa cards for our teachers using banked points! Yaaaahoooo!

> \$25 Visa Cards

We are also ready to begin two new points programs: Tyson A+ Project and Coke Rewards. For Coke Rewards, set up an account then enter your lid codes and donate your points to the school. We can then purchase equipment and/or supplies for our school with banked points. The same goes

for Tyson A+ but they pay a whopping .24 cents per label!



Don't forget to use your Target REDcard and link it to EPSOC PTA. Target now offers a RED debit card option, too.

Create an account at escrip.com and select EPSOC PTA as your school. If you already have an account you will need to renew your membership on the website annually. Sadly, Safeway no longer participates in escrip but there are dozens of other stores who do, including Amazon. Begin your purchasing session at escrip.com then click on Amazon (or whichever retailer you choose) then proceed with your order as usual. When you are finished, a percentage of your purchase total goes back to the PTA. Think eScrip

The hardest part is remembering to go there



kmripka@hotmail.com

Fall picture day is October 6th. Volunteers who can run and move fast wanted!



YEARBOOK PHOTOS EMAIL

epyearbook@hotmail.com

The yearbook committee is looking forward to using great pictures taken by you this year! That's why we've created an email account (above) for anyone to send in photos from any function--classsroom or schoolwide. No guarantees everything will make it in, but we'll do our best to include some of the submissions! Please send at the highest resolution possible for best quality. Some photos taken on phones, and those transferred from Facebook pages are often not usable due to quality. We are always in need of theater production photos, and Bethel Rec TEAM photos. Ready, set... send in those photos!



four star

Graham, WA

After School Program Drop-in 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

All levels welcome!

Sharon Lulham, Owner • Graham, WA 253-847-0783 • 253-320-9591 cell

Elk Plain School of Choice PTA

OFFICERS 2015-2016

President	Crystal Green	(253)973-1596	cowgirl_73@msn.com
Co-Vice President	Christie McMahill	(253)677-3760	christiemcmahill@gmail.com
Co-Vice President	Jennifer Grant	(253)380-7400	grantsrnj@msn.com
Treasurer	Melissa Pate	(253)861-5226	mpatenkl@gmail.com
Secretary	Holly Ingram	(719)244-4770	hollyaguon@yahoo.com

COMMITTEE CHAIRS

	COMMITT	LE CHAIN	
Beautification	Debbie Townsend-Schmidt	(253) 843-0747	rockola@q.com
Bingo Night	Holly Ingram	(719)244-4770	hollyaguon@yahoo.com
Book Fair	OPEN		
Label's for Education	Gaby Makinster	(253)330-9466	makinster1@comcast.net
Fall Carnival Team	Michelle Davis		closer919@msn.com
Clothing/Food Drive	Suzette Ebbinga	(253)267-2369	smebbinga@gmail.com
Family Fun Nights	Christina Gries	(253)221-3263	gncgries@gmail.com
Field Day	Heather Bahrt	(253)970-8325	heatherg81@hotmai.com
*	Marie Reed	(253)847-8647	marienot@comcast.net
*	Dorthy Tuck	(253)229-0573	dortiedoo@gmail.com
*	Luz Ware	(253)241-2205	iluvlucie2@comcast.net
Fundraising	Jennifer Grant	(253)380-7400	grantsrnj@msn.com
Golden Acorn	Christina Gries	(253)221-3263	gncgries@gmail.com
Holiday Shop	Kendra Williamson	(253)847-4297	kand3bees@hotmail.com
Hospitality/Sunshine	Mara Areglo	(253)777-7321	cmareglo@gmail.com
*	Kim Wolgemuth	(253)314-9235	kimreko@msn.com
Laminating	Holly Ingram	(719)244-4770	hollyaguon@yahoo.com
Legislation	Stacy Legg	(858) 204-8049	stacylynn12925@yahoo.com
Membership	Christie McMahill	(253)6773760	christiemcmahill@gmail.com
Newsletter	Christine Link		christinelink@yahoo.com
Popcorn	Jenn Black	(253)545-8666	drjlynnblack@yahoo.c om
Programs/Assemblies	Georgina Park	(253) 683-7900	gpark@bethelsd.org
Proof Reading	Georgina Park	(253) 683-7900	gpark@bethelsd.org
Read & Lead	Melissa Pate	(253)861-5226	mpatenkl@gmail.com
*	Crystal Green	(253)973-1596	cowgirl_73@msn.com
Sustainability	Christine Link		christinelink@yahoo.com
Reflections	OPEN		
Safety Committee	Eugene Gries	(253)847-0950	gncgries@gmail.com
*	Mike Pate	(253)536-1510	mpatenkl@gmail.com
School Pictures	Krystal Ripka	(253) 651-9925	kmripka@hotmail.com
Science Night	Bev Rarey	(253)536-2429	bjrgrandma@aol.com
*	Georgina Park	(253) 683-7900	gpark@bethesd.org
Staff Appreciation	Jayme Roberts	(206)200-7986	jroberts0769@gmail.com
Student Store	Gina Sawyer	(253) 686-8368	ginasawyer@comcast.net
T-Shirts & Logo Wear	Naoko Geforos	(253) 846-1044	witnit@msn.com
Yearbook	Kendra Wiliamson	(253) 847-4297	kand3bees@hotmail.com
*	Christie McMahill	(253) 677-3760	christiemcmahill@gmail.com

EPSOC PTA 2015-2016 CALENDAR

8 - Open House 5:00p-6:00p 9 - First Day of School 7:15a 14-Tea & Tissues 7:30a 17- PTA Potluck 5:30p 25= Goodies w/ Grandparents 7:00a

2nd-19th - Fall Fundraiser 6- Picture Day (Yr. Bk) - Board Meeting 2:15p 13-General PTA Mtg 2:15p 16-Movie Night 7:00p 23- Book Fair Set Up 26th-30th-Book Fair (conf.) 27- Staff Luncheon 30- Fall Carnival 4:30p-7:30p

2nd-20th - Food Drive 3-Board Meeting 2:15p 10- Picture Retakes - General PTA Meeting 6:30p 20-Movie Night 7:00p 26-27- Thanksgiving Break

1-Board Meeting 2:15p 7th -11th Holiday Shop 21-Winter Break Begins

1- Winter Break 4- Read & Lead Starts 5-Board Meeting 2:15p 12-General PTA Meeting 2:15p 19- Clothing Drive Begins 29-Movie Night 7:00p

SEPTEMBER

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FEBRUARY

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2-Board Meeting 2:15p 5-Clothing Drive Ends 9-General PTA Meeting 2:15p(nominations)

18= Science Night

OCTOBER

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MARCH

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1-Board Meeting 2:15p **8-General PTA Meeting**

2:15p(elections)

9-Picture Day(Class, Groups, etc) 21-Read & Lead last day

25-Read and Lead Party -Book Fair Set up

28th-31st- Book Fair (conf.) 29- Staff Luncheon

NOVEMBER

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1-Book Fair (conf.)

-Read & Lead Assembly 4th-8th-Spring Break

12-Board Meeting 2:15p 15- Muffins w/ Mom 7:00a

22- Bingo

DECEMBER

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MAY

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3-Board Meeting 2:15p 10-General PTA Meeting 2:15p 20= Donuts with Dad 7:00a

JANUARY

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JUNE

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1st-3rd-BOGO Book Fair 3- Field Day 7-Board Meeting 2:15p 14-General PTA Meeting 2:15p 20= Last Day of School