



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

CURRENT PTA MEMBERS: 174

PTA Meeting Minutes

General Membership Meeting Minutes October 13, 2015

- Called to Order at 2:19 pm.
- Quorum is met with 14 people.
- September Meeting Motion: Michelle Davis makes motion to approve minutes with Mara as a second. All approve, none opposed, and minutes are passed.
- Financial Report: Enclosed in Binder.
- No Principle Report today.
- Office Staff is requesting \$75 for a pizza party for the class (Mrs. Landers) that turned in all of their federal forms first. This is for 7 pizzas and a \$5.00 tip. Mrs. Park motions to grant the \$75 for the pizza party and Mrs. Bev seconds. All approved, none opposed.
- Committee Reports:
 - Gina (Student Store): It is going well. She got a new counter gifted to her for student store. Candy grams are starting soon.
 - Holly (Lamination and Bingo): Laminator is down until November. Bingo will start rolling along towards the end of the year.
 - Jamie (Staff Appreciation): Coffee is a big hit in the staff lounge. Oct is the Staff Luncheon... food and volunteers are needed. November will roll out a giving tree- this will have leaves that are filled with teacher's wishes for them or the classroom. December- special treat day with their favorite beverage and treats.
 - Jenn (Fundraising): is going well. No reports yet with one student doing 75 items and at least 15 students seeing Blitz.
 - Christina (Family Fun Nights): Oct. 16 movie night is ready to go. Admission is free with concessions for sale. Doors open at 6:30 with movie starting at 7:00pm.
 - Michelle (Fall Carnival): All permits have been approved and it is ready to go. It is from 4:30 to 7:30.
 - Book Fair: Needs volunteers but should be ready to go.
 - Mara: Goodies with grandparents went well.
 - Holiday Shop: Still looking for a set up place.
 - Christine (Sustainability): Wall chart is up, 1208 points and are shipping 35lbs next week.
 - Christine (Newsletter): Anything to put in the newsletter needs to be submitted by Oct. 23.
 - Jen Black (Popcorn): First day Oct 2 and made \$51. Next popcorn day is Oct 16. Announcements will go out. They need volunteers. Still looking for a good space but for now they are outside by the recycling.
- New Business:
 - State grant request/ application it is worth \$500 for PTA/ Committee. It can go for a healthy environment/ promoting good health.

Meeting adjourned @ 2:48 pm.

PRESIDENT

Crystal Green
cowgirl_73@msn.com

Happy New Year Elk Plain Families,

I hope you had a restful Winter break and you're getting back into the swing of things. The EPSOC PTA has some great events planned for the coming months, including Read & Lead, the Clothing Drive for Families in Need, Movie Night, Science Night, Spring Picture Day and a Sock Hop. If you're interested in getting involved in helping with any of these activities, please let me know.

I would like to give a huge THANK YOU to all of the Committee Chairpersons and their teams who pour their time and energy into PTA programs and events. Our school year has got off to a great start and I credit that to all the hard work that you each give selflessly! I, for one, can speak for my family that the time each of you gives to make Elk Plain the great school it is does not go unnoticed or unappreciated.

If your New Year's resolution is to get more involved at your child's school then we can help you with that! PTA's goal is to make every child's potential a reality and there are ways for all parents to be a part of that mission. Feel free to contact us with any thoughts, questions, or ideas you may have. We would love to hear from you!

Best Regards,
Crystal Green
EPSOC PTA President

READ AND LEAD 2016

VH

Melissa Pate
mpatenkl@gmail.com

THANK YOU to all who have helped with the preparation of Read and Lead 2016! We are off to a great start and could not have done it without our awesome volunteers. Thank you in advance to everyone who has signed on to track weekly progress, fill out prizes, and help with our ice cream party. Our students are truly lucky that EPSOC PTA has such dedicated volunteers! There are still volunteer opportunities available. Please contact Melissa Pate (mpatenkl@gmail) or Crystal Green (cowgirl_73@msn.com) with any questions about the Read and Lead program or come to our Question and Answer night.



Read and Lead Q and A: January 15th from 3-7pm
Limeberry (Graham)
22205 Meridian Ave. East, Graham, WA
A portion of your purchase will go to EPSOC PTA!



All students with 1,000 minutes and all classrooms with 100% participation (each student has turned in at least one completed sheet) will be invited to an ice cream party at the end of the program!

The 2016 bond is for building. The 2014 levy was for learning. Make your voice heard and remember to vote in the Special Election! Ballots must be postmarked or put in a drop box by Tuesday, February 9th.



15/16 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 ads: card \$25 1/4 page \$50

VH=Opportunity for Volunteer Hours ♻️ = Recycling available

JAN/FEB Events

- **READ & LEAD BEGINS** VH
January 4th-March 21st
Melissa Pate, mpatenkl@gmail.com
- **PTA BOARD MEETING**
Tuesday, January 5th, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **PTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING** VH
Tuesday, January 12th, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **READ & LEAD Q & A, LIMEBERRY**
Friday, January 15th, 3-7pm
- **CLOTHING DRIVE BEGINS** VH
January 19th - February 5th, smebbinga@gmail.com
- **SCIENCE PROJECT INFO NIGHT**
Thursday, January 28th, 5:30-6:30pm
- **MOVIE NIGHT!** ♻️ VH
Friday, January 29th, 7:00pm
Chrissy Gries, gncgries@gmail.com

- **PTA BOARD MEETING**
February 2nd, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **TACOMA STARS FAMILY NIGHT**
Friday, February 5th, 7:35pm
stacylynn12925@yahoo.com, http://bit.ly/elkplain
- **PTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING** VH
Tuesday, February 9th, 2:15pm, EPSOC Library
- **SCIENCE NIGHT/STEM Showcase** VH
Thursday, February 18th

MARCH Look Ahead

- **PTA BOARD MEETING**
Tuesday, March 1st, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **SOCK HOP FAMILY FUN NIGHT!** VH
Friday, March 11th
- **SCIENCE NIGHT/STEM Showcase** VH
Mrs. Park, gpark@bethelsd.org
Bev Rarey, bjrgrandma@aol.com
Thursday, February 18, 2016

Science projects will be required for 4th-6th graders, and encouraged for K-3 and 7th graders. All the projects will be up for show all day and during the evening on the 18th along with extra science related activities. We are always looking for judges and people to help set-up and take-down first thing both Thursday morning (starting at 7:15 am) and take-down Friday morning (starting at 7:15 am). More information and details will be coming.

Got questions? Need ideas?

STEM PROJECT INFORMATION NIGHT
Thursday, January 28
5:30-6:30 p.m.



DIVERSIONS *from Mrs. Park*

There was that one moment ...

2015 is past, 2016 is present, and the future is, well, the future. This time of year when reflecting I tend to think of things not in a linear fashion but circular. If you want to see it as I do think of the life of a tree. At each instant there is the potential for more trees (seeds for the future); old wood or last year's leaves (the past); new growth (the present). It is the same tree at all moments in time but represents different time intervals.

Moments at any instant may be the future, past, or present. So, it is hard to just look back ~ or just search forward. What follows are a jumble of my moments, big and small, that have happened before, now, or the twinkling ahead. All are true, all are happening, some time or other. Maybe you share some of these moments, or maybe you can think of some of your own.

With apologies I give you ...

One Moment

One moment I see green and blue;
One moment someone pledges to be true.

One moment hugging all of one;
One moment three, the story spun.

One moment facing a lifelong fear;
One moment when that foot wart finally disappears.

One moment I can see the end;
One moment traveling with a friend.

One moment soft down pillow;
One moment in the branches of the willow.

One moment mad, and seeing red;
One moment hearing words full of dread.

One moment rolling down the hill;
One moment wishbones on the sill.

One moment laughing to beat the band;
One moment ouching over the sand.

One moment whispering a silly secret;
One moment hearing, "tag, you're it!"

One moment longing to see my friend;
One moment broken heart on the mend.

One moment tropical sun streaming down;
One moment Halloween as a clown.

One moment when your life list gains a new species of duck;
One moment when you say "I could use some luck."

One moment face all in crinkles;
One moment covered in chocolate sprinkles.

One moment busy avoiding the end;
One moment beginnings I comprehend.

One moment my father's giant sneeze;
One moment adolescent tease.

One moment buried under the birch;
One moment my old library perch.

One moment viewing Van Gogh's art;
One moment searching the riverbank for rock hearts.

One moment soccer cleats on turf;
One moment jelly fish in the surf.

One moment sweet watermelon in my mouth;
One moment birds winging south.

One moment when you think you are done;
One moment ...

Looking at meaningful moments in 2016,
Georgina Gryc Park

VALENTINE'S *for*
VOLUNTEERS

Special thanks to Kendra Williamson who has chaired the Santa Shop for several years and made it possible (with all her bargain shopping) for students to purchase affordable gifts for family members.

Live, Laugh, Love
Bev



My heart belongs to Sustainability gals Anne-Sophie Montgomery and Angie Strub. They are the other 2 legs of the recycling tripod. Also to Ms. Jaime who has enthusiastically supported the recycling program from the moment I met her in May of last year. Floating hearts to Michelle Davis for always being willing to help and Mrs. Park for all of her support and guidance. ~ Christine



A special Valentine Thank You to the Movie Night volunteers: Kimberly Keys, Michelle Fry, Crystal Green, Jenn Black, Kendra Williamson and the Pate Family ~ Chrissy



Thank you to all the amazing parent volunteers, Committee Chairs and the Executive Board! I enjoy working with all of you! A special Thank You goes out to Melissa Pate for being available to answer my crazy questions, bounce my silly ideas off of, and help me not go crazy when I think I am losing my mind. Happy Valentine's Day Everyone!!! ~ Crystal



Hugs & Kisses on this Valentine's Day to my cohort in science crime ~ Bev Rarey. She has helped me build the Elk Plain STEM Showcase and PTA Science Night into an engineering event extraordinaire! Truly, I could not have done it without her. ~ Mrs. Park

POPCORN FRIDAYS

VH

Jenn Black drjlynnblack@yahoo.com
Text 253-545-8666



Volunteers needed!

February 12, 19, 26 and March 11 and 25

Elk Plain School of Choice has a long tradition of "Popcorn Fridays." Popcorn is popped and sold outside during all lunch recesses every Friday. Each bag of popcorn costs \$.25 with all proceeds sustaining this favorite lunch-time treat! Given this is an ongoing event that needs staffing throughout the school year, it is helpful to have volunteers who can commit to a schedule. Some volunteers commit to one Friday per month, while others choose two Fridays a month, every week, or even once per trimester. Whatever your availability, we will gladly include you! (We always welcome people to help with popcorn if they are on campus during lunch on Fridays, but it is best if we have two people scheduled for each Popcorn Friday). We need volunteers for February 12, February 19, and February 26. Volunteers are also needed March 11 and March 25. If you are available from 9:30am to 12:30pm any of those Fridays, please contact Jenn Black via email or text. Thank you for your help!

YEARBOOK PHOTOS EMAIL

VH epyearbook@hotmail.com

The yearbook committee has created an email account (above) for anyone to send in photos from any function--classroom or schoolwide. 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. If you would like to be a volunteer photographer for class plays, please contact:



Kendra Williamson, kwilliamson@pcnw-docs.com
or
Christie McMahill, christiemcmahill@gmail.com

BOX TOPS, ETC.

Gaby Makinster

makinster1@comcast.net



Remember to cut out labels right along the dotted line!

FAMILY FUN NIGHT

Chrissy Gries

VH

gncgries@gmail.com

The first two movie nights have been great successes and great fun! Our third one comes soon on January 29th. As usual, admission is free but we will offer some simple concessions for purchase including popcorn. Movie nights are very relaxed and an inexpensive way to have a family and/or friends night out! Movie details coming soon!



Note: Please do not drop your students off and leave. We are not staffing these events for child supervision. In fact, we will need a couple volunteers to sell concessions. If you're interested, please email me at gncgries@gmail.com.

SUSTAINABILITY

Christine Link

christinelink@yahoo.com

What's that? You can recycle styrofoam?

Contact myself or Stacy Legg (stacylynn12925@yahoo.com) if you have styrofoam at home that you would like recycled. We are planning to take ours to R & D Recycling in Fife in February and would love to take yours too. Free up some space in your trash tote and do the earth a big favor!



Check out the Sustainability Expo!
Saturday, March 5th from 10am-3pm

You'll be able to network with over 100 vendors; participate in interactive workshops, a mini-Farmers' Market, and Kids' Corner activities; and learn how to have a more sustainable impact on our community and natural environment.

TERRACYCLE UPDATE:

210 lbs saved from the landfill and over \$170 earned for the PTA!

THIS TRIMESTER'S GREEN TEAM!

4th Grade: Mekhi H., Solomon J., Aiden B., Jewelia S., Fallen M., Spencer G., Makaila D., Taylor A., Elysa M.

5th Grade: Mia R., Kaleayn W., Samantha R., Vernon H., Hannah B-B., Wesley S.

FOUR STAR FARM

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 crafts.

All levels welcome!

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