



## PRESIDENT

Elizabeth Custodio  
er\_custodio@hotmail.com

SKY WARRIORS, we're almost at the end of this year but don't fret, we have two more big PTA events left: Donuts with Dad and Field Day. We also have our big 6th grade production of SHREK JR! I want to thank all our staff, students, parents, and PTA members for a wonderful, crazy, eventful and awesome year! Without you all, we wouldn't be Elk Plain School of Choice. So in the words of Oscar Wilde, "Be YOURSELF, because EVERYONE ELSE is already taken."

## Congratulations 2015/16 PTA Officers!

Co-President, Elizabeth Custodio  
Co-President, Crystal Green  
Co-Vice President, Christie McMahill  
Co-Vice President, Jennifer Grant  
Treasurer, Melissa Pate  
Secretary, Holly Ingram

## OPEN COMMITTEES

Crystal Green, cowgirl\_73@msn.com

The following committees are in need of a chairperson for the 2015-2016 school year. Please keep in mind that without a chairperson these events/jobs may not get done. We welcome anyone that may be interested in volunteering for one of these committee chairs to contact either Crystal Green (cowgirl\_73@msn.com) or Elizabeth Custodio (er\_custodio@hotmail.com). There will be plenty of support and training for anyone that decides to step up to volunteer.

- Bingo Night
- Book Fair
- Field Day
- Fundraising
- Membership
- Staff Appreciation
- Reflections

"Nobody can do everything, but everyone can do something."  
-Author Unknown

## FIELD DAY IS JUNE 5TH!

Christina Gries 253-221-3263 gncgries@gmail.com

### June 5th is FIELD DAY!

Are you interested in volunteering on Field Day? We will need around 50 volunteers, not only during the school day but also for set up (possibly as early as 6:30am) and for clean-up after school. Any amount of help you can contribute is greatly appreciated! Volunteer forms are coming home soon so please fill it out and return the form to school as soon as possible so we know you're coming. Extra forms will be outside of the PTA office. Questions? Christina Gries - gncgries@gmail.com

*\*\*Volunteer/Background Check Forms will need to be current on the day of Field Day for each volunteer. Please check with the Elk Plain office for forms.*

## SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION

Debbie Townsend-Schmidt, rockola@q.com, 253-843-0747

### Earth Week Beautification

Thanks to all of our amazing students that helped make EPSOC a more beautiful place during Earth Week! They planted hundreds of crocus and grape hyacinth bulbs, also sunflower and cosmos seeds, columbine, Missouri primrose, Spanish bluebells, snow on the mountain, alyssum, lupine, pansies and cosmos plants. A graceful Japanese maple was donated by the Ray family (Michelle, Bob and Marley), which several sixth graders expertly planted; thank you to the Ray family! Thanks also to Mrs. Park and Mr. Clark for their assistance in supervising our eager gardeners. They all helped make our campus a more beautiful place for years to come.

The Ray Family  
Mrs. Park  
Mr. Clark  
Missy Freeman  
Naoko Geforos  
Kimberly Keys  
Emmaline Schmidt  
Doug Schmidt

More thanks go out to our beautification volunteers that helped out during our March and April gardening dates: Missy Freeman, Naoko Geforos, Kimberly Keys, Emmaline Schmidt and Doug Schmidt. Your hard work is much appreciated!

### More Campus Beautification Dates

There are just two more weekend beautification dates left this year. The May 9th beautification has been rescheduled to the following Saturday, May 16th, and Sunday, June 7 will be our last beautification of the 2014/2015 school year. These weekend volunteer opportunities are designed to help those families who cannot volunteer during the week and need to fulfill their volunteer commitment. We hope to see you there!

## MAY/JUNE Events

- **MAY PTA BOARD MEETING**  
Tuesday, May 12th, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **PTA 2015/16 BUDGET MEETING**  
Evening of May 12th
- **DONUTS WITH DAD** ♻️  
Friday, May 15th, 7-7:35am
- **SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION**  
Saturday, May 16th, 10am-Noon
- **PTA MEMBERSHIP MEETING**  
Wednesday, May 20th, 2:15, EPSOC Library
- **VOLUNTEER BREAKFAST** ♻️  
Thursday, May 21st, 7:15-7:50am
- **FIELD DAY: Friday, June 5th, All Day!** ♻️
- **SCHOOL BEAUTIFICATION**  
Sunday, June 7th, 10am-Noon

## VOLUNTEER Hours

- Help with Donuts with Dad: cmareglo@yahoo.com
- Join the School Beautification team on May 16th and June 7th: rockola@q.com
- Help at Student Store every other Thursday: Gina Sawyer, ginasawyer@comcast.net
- Volunteer for Field Day: gncgries@gmail.com
- Check out the Teacher Task board in the office for ways to volunteer for teachers.
- Attend PTA Membership Meetings
- Help Arts Team with productions: Mary Ellen Gilmour (Theater Specialist), mgilmour@bethelsd.org

## BINGO! NIGHT THANKS

Christina Gries, gncgries@gmail.com, 253-221-3263

BINGO night was a great success! Over 200 people came to play and many of those won a bingo prize, raffle item and/or silent auction item. We offered 23 diverse silent auction items where the highest bid for one was \$75. One person even walked out a little richer as our 50/50 raffle cash winner of \$40.50.

Thank you to all our volunteers and to those families who donated items for prizes. A special thank you goes out to Mrs. Sherrod and her husband for doing the BINGO calling! EPSOC PTA would also like to acknowledge the following businesses for their generous donations. BINGO would not happen without the sponsorship of these businesses! THANK YOU!

Aurthur Murray Dance	Seahawks
Bjs Bingo Hall	Shaggy Shack Pet Resort
Broadway Center	Tacoma Rainiers
Blue Mouse Theater	The Putting Zoo
Comedy Underground	University of Washington Athletics
Emerald Downs	Washington State History Museum
Farrelli's Pizza	White Pass Ski Resort
The Grande Cinema Tacoma	Wolf Haven
Hands On Children's Museum	Woodland Park Zoo
Lemay Family Collection	Volcano Coffee
Mt Rainier Scenic Rail	Lux Salon & Spa -Tacoma
Northwest Trek	TAM-Tacoma Art Museum
Pet Pros	Country Rose-Spanaway
Washington State Fair-Puyallup Fair	Randles Sand & Gravel



Not including Beautification, Donuts with Dad and Field Day hours!

## Your 2014/2015 PTA Officers

### President:

Elizabeth Custodio,  
er\_custodio@hotmail.com

### Co-Vice Presidents

Christie McMahill, christiemcmahill@gmail.com  
Jennifer Rivard, jennifer\_rivard@yahoo.com

### Financial Officer

Melissa Pate, mpatenkl@gmail.com

### Secretary

Holly Ingram, hollyaguon@yahoo.com

Newsletter Entries: christinelink@yahoo.com

PTA MEMBERSHIP TOTAL: 155

## PTA Meeting Minutes



EPSOC PTA General Meeting  
Wednesday, October 15th

Meeting called to order at 2:17 pm

Quorum: yes

Executive Board Members Present: Elizabeth Custodio, Christie McMahill, Dawn Calkins

Committee chairs present: Bev Rarey, Naoko Geforos, Georgina Park, Kendra Williamson, Shannon Gregory, Christina Gries, Melissa Pate, Debbie Townsend-Schmidt

Principal: Chad Honig

Business Reports: Review Board Minutes (no need for approval)

PTA Standing Rules 2014-2015 Approval: Kendra Williamson motioned to approve, motion was seconded. Grant was approved for the change of Standing Rules.

### Grant Requests Approval:

Chris Clark requested a grant for up to \$100.00 for crossing guard safety attire. Mr. Clark will be responsible for all of the attire/equipment. Bev Rarey motioned to approve, Georgina Park seconded. Grant was approved.

Karla Moriarty requested a grant for up to \$75.00 for a pizza party for Mrs. Pattee's class for being the first class to return all of the Federal forms to the office.

Georgina Park motioned to approve, Melissa Pate seconded. Grant was approved.

### Upcoming Events:

Staff Appreciation will be held on October 21, 2014 10:00 am until 4:30 pm. Still in need of a few more salads and rolls.

Book Fair is still in need of volunteers.

Fall Carnival entry cost will be as follows: \$5.00 per child or 3 for \$12.00. Donations of individually wrapped candy is still needed. So far \$1000.00 has been spent to furnish games and craft items for the children to make.

### Principal's Report:

Chad Honig talked about construction is almost finished in the gym and should be done the end of October. Construction should also be completed outside. Possibly a "mini dedication" instead of an open house.

### Open Floor:

Christina Gries talked about how well the Fall Fundraising is going. It ends October 20th.

Melissa Pate stated there are 144 PTA members and we have 101 preorders of yearbooks.

Dione Savage will be doing box tops until someone else takes her place.

Holiday Shop: we are still trying to figure out where will be the best location to have it this year. It will be open December 16-19th from 7:15-2:15.

Meeting adjourned at 3:14pm.

Respectfully submitted by: Dawn Calkins



**DIVERSIONS from Mrs. Park**

“Clouds come floating into my life, no longer to carry rain or usher storm, but to add color to my sunset sky.”  
~Rabindranath Tagore

Up in the sky ... it's a bird, it's a plane, no ... it's a visible mass of liquid droplets condensed in the troposphere forming a cumulonimbus! Or, in normal parlance ~ a cloud.

Spring is an excellent time in Western Washington to cloud watch and check out all the different shapes, sizes, and types. The weather rolls through heralded by the clouds in the sky. And we may think they are there just for our enjoyment but in actuality clouds are part of an intricate system designed to recycle and reuse the earth's water.

Nephology is the name for the study or contemplation of clouds. Cloud types and heights are varied and complex, dutifully classified by scientists. A thorough science, Nephology is based on the amount of water vapor in the cloud, shape the cloud manifests, and likelihood of the clouds behavior (rain or not). I, on the other hand, have my own classification system ~ clouds that look like pirate ships, ones that appear as various animals (lots of ducks and bunnies), mountains, trains, and sometimes even people. Dragons have their own category in my science of clouds. Dragons that are standing, dragons that are flying, or dragons breathing fire.

Any excuse to look up in the sky seems the perfect science to me. Bird watching, cloud classification, following the floating of a dandelion seed, searching for shooting stars, or even taking note of the Space Shuttle passing overhead, are all legitimate reasons to do what I already wish to do ... look up.

“Rest is not idleness, and to lie sometimes on the grass under trees on a summer's day, listening to the murmur of the water, or watching the clouds float across the sky, is by no means a waste of time.”  
~John Lubbock

“Summer is the annual permission slip to be lazy. To do nothing and have it count for something. To lie in the grass and count the stars. To sit on a branch and study the clouds.”  
~Regina Brett

So this summer please spend some time doing nothing, and doing that nothing as a family. Do nothing together; watch grass, stare at stars, observe ants, be mesmerized by waves on the beach, count trees on the mountain, and especially contemplate the clouds in the sky. That one looks like a duck, or a pirate ship, a dragon, or a castle. Do it for me so I won't look so gosh darn silly ... always looking up!

Fluffily yours,  
Georgina Gryc Park

**SPRING BOOK FAIR THANKS**

Kirsten Bowie, kirsten\_bowie@yahoo.com

A HUGE Thank You to those of you who took time out of your busy schedules to make the Book Fair such a success! It takes all of the great volunteers to make these programs so successful! We will be doing a BOGO Book Fair towards the end of school! Be sure to look for information as we get closer to June!

Jessica Gabriel, Aubrey Hull, Kendra Williamson, Amanda Mucha, Leesa Gabriel, Jadie Green, Crystal Green, Melissa Pate, Christina Gries, Jenn Black, Michael Pate, Brandy Bargelt, Bev Rarey, Mr. Honig

**YEARBOOK THANKS**

Kendra Williamson, kwilliamson@pcnw-docs.com

Thank you to the parents who helped with the yearbook by sending in photos of your children's plays and Bethel Rec sports, and to Krystal Ripka for taking photos and designing the Camp Seymour page for us. A BIG thank you to Elizabeth Custodio for doing anything and everything to lend a hand (taking photos, uploading photos, and creating pages.) I GREATLY appreciate your smiling face and willingness to always help! Last, a very special thank you to my co-chair, Christie McMahill, for all your hard work, for being so easy to work with, and pretty much just being a rock star!

Krystal Ripka  
Elizabeth Custodio  
Christie McMahill

Yearbook  
Order  
Form  
Below

**YEARBOOK PHOTOS EMAIL**

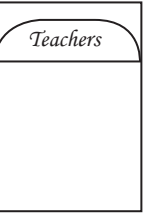
epyearbook@hotmail.com

The 2014/15 yearbooks were submitted on Monday, April 20th and the first pics for the 2015/16 edition were taken at Muffins with Mom on the 24th! It was an AMAZINGLY LARGE crowd, and I feel like we missed a lot of people... so here's where YOU come in!

We've created an email account (epyearbook@hotmail.com) for anyone to send photos in! In fact, if you have a photo from ANY function from now until next March that you think would be great for yearbook, send it on in! No guarantees everything will make it in, but we'll do our best to include some of the submissions! Please send at 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 play photos, and Bethel Rec TEAM photos. Remember, only pics taken AFTER 4/24/15. Ready, set... send in those photos!

**TEACHER TASK BOARD in OFFICE**

Check out the new Teacher Task board in the office! Every teacher has a small envelope filled with cards describing tasks they need done in the classroom. This is a great way to support teachers directly and get your volunteer hours filled.



**FUNDRAISING**

Christina Gries

253-221-3263 gncgries@gmail.com

Online ordering and fundraising continues all year long at Elk Plain School of Choice! Go to www.cherrydale.com and select Go Shopping.

**LAST CHANCE FOR YEARBOOK ORDERS! Please cut out this order form and return it to school with cash or check made out to EPSOC PTA.**

**First come, first served!**

Cost: \$20 Cash or Checks payable to EPSOC PTA

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Child's Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Child's Teacher: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent Name \_\_\_\_\_ Phone number: \_\_\_\_\_

**Contact Kendra (253)381-2435 or Christie (253)677-3760 with questions.**

**SUSTAINABILITY COMMITTEE**

Christine Link, christinelink@yahoo.com

Sustainability Committee is coming next year! I am making a list of my own "green" ideas and would love hear from you, too. In addition to what we already do in the classroom, let's start by reclaiming all the plastic water bottles and soda cans from PTA and school events. Then let's see what else we can reduce, reuse, recycle, or repair. There will be recycle bins available at events listed in the newsletter with the recycle logo--so let's fill them up!



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Sharon Lulham, Owner • Graham, WA  
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**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: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Child(ren)/Teacher(s): \_\_\_\_\_

**Standard Membership Fees**

Individual: \$10    Couple: \$18    Business ads:  card \$25    1/4 page \$50

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