

Eastgate Dictionary

This “Eastgate Dictionary” is intended to give you a quick overview of some of the terms that may be unique to Eastgate or unique to an elementary school. (Let us know of terms we have missed so they can be included next time.)

The following websites are great resources:

www.eastgatepta.org
Eastgate PTA website

www.bsd405.org/eastgate
Eastgate Elementary website

Name	Description
After School Programs	After school activities, such as Art, Lego Club, and Chess Club, at Eastgate after school hours. Parents/Guardians responsible for any tuition or fees for the programs, see program flyers for details.
Assemblies	Presentation of some sort, usually educational or awards based, with the whole school in one area.
Attendance Line	Please call 425-456-5104 if your child will be late or absent and leave a message. These messages are checked against the attendance taken in each classroom and families are contacted if there student is absent without a message. Please call everyday of a child’s illness or absence.
Auction	Eastgate’s primary fundraiser. The auction is held every other year and raises funds for PTA programs such as PACE, Young Author’s Day, and Family Fun Night. Learn more on the PTA Website, Auction Page. http://www.eastgatepta.org/auction.html
Back to School Social	Evening PTA event, held in the Eastgate Elementary Playground for socializing with fellow Eastgate Families and teachers. Bring a picnic dinner for your family or purchase hot dog & chips for \$2.50 Learn more on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/programs.html
Ballet Residency (or PNB)	Refers to the 4 th grade residency partnership with Pacific Northwest Ballet. All fourth grade students receive 6 weeks of instruction during school hours. Students perform as a class with PNB dancers at McCaw Hall in Seattle and at Eastgate. Learn more on the PTA Website, PNB page. http://www.eastgatepta.org/discover-dance-program.html
Birthdays	A student’s birthday maybe celebrated in the classroom. Teachers celebrate in different ways (such as a special story time). Please check with your classroom teacher before bringing/sending in anything as individual classrooms vary. NO FOOD/EDIBLE ITEMS

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Book Fair	In late November or early December the school librarian, Nancy Foster, hosts a Scholastic Book Fair. Scholastic sells terrific children's books at very reasonable prices and part of the proceeds benefit our school library. Teacher "wish lists" are available at the fair and this is a great way to thank your teacher for their hard work and contribute to the classroom reading materials. (Scholastic Book Order forms also go home periodically in most classrooms.)
Box Tops for Education	Very easy fundraiser! Get money for your school on things you already buy! Cut the "Box Tops for Education" coupons off of General Mills products. Often raises \$500 or more per year. Have friends and family save too, it all adds up!
Brightspace	Brightspace is an online tool where teachers can place information for students and parents to view anytime, anywhere. Brightspace is an interactive learning management system where teachers add items for students to see, it can be the complete curriculum to just calendar dates. The content is up to the teacher. The site password protected. Go to https://d2l.bsd405.org/ to learn more
Breakfast with Dad or Doughnuts with Dad	Usually in spring, students bring their father figure for DOUGHNUTS WITH DAD. The Eastgate Elementary PTA provides FREE Doughnuts, Coffee, and Juice!
BSD	Bellevue School District
BSF (Bellevue Schools Foundation)	Foundation established to support all of the Bellevue School District schools. Conducts fundraisers and is closely allied to the school district. Distributes funds through a grant program. See more on their website http://www.bellevueschoolsfoundation.org/
Bus	Many students ride the school bus to and from school. Your child may ride the bus home with a friend only with your permission. Students should bring a note from home to the school office in the morning. The office staff will provide your student with a "bus pass" to give the driver. For more information, including bus stops and rules see the school district web site: http://www.bsd405.org/eastgate/resources/bus-routes/
Choir	The Eastgate Music teacher, Rachel Quatrone, sponsors a choir for 4th and 5th graders. The choir meets before school one day per week at 8:00 am in the music room. Students must have a signed permission slip to participate, which can be obtained at the school office.

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Conferences	Parent-teacher conferences are private meetings held between parents and a teacher sometime in the fall. All students will have a fall conference. This is an opportunity for you and the teacher to discuss your student's strengths and areas for improvement. In the spring and throughout the remainder of the year your teacher will contact you if a conference is necessary. However, you are welcome and encouraged to contact your teacher at any time if you wish to schedule a conference. Translators are available for parents who are not fluent in English.
Corporate Matching	Many companies have programs through which they will "match" the charitable contributions made by their employees. Through corporate gift matching, your employer can multiply your gift to make it go further. Learn more on the PTA Website, Corporate Matching page. http://www.eastgatepta.org/corporate-matching.html
Counselor/ Psychologist	The school counselor's job is to help students with educationally related issues and challenges. The school psychologist's primary job is to administer specific testing to assess students' for special services such as Enrichment, IEP's, etc. Please feel free to contact your teacher or the counselor/psychologist with any questions.
Curriculum Night	Sometimes called "Back to School Night". A school-wide evening with every classroom teacher hosting a discussion of the year's planned learning. Intended for parents/guardians only, and not students/siblings.
Discovery Dance	See Ballet (or PNB) above.
Directory	PTA published student phone, address, and email directory. Great way to find friend's phone numbers for play dates. Families have the option to opt-out of this (through the school district paperwork, or directly contact Eastgate PTA), if needed.
Drills	Fire, Earthquake, Shelter In Place, and Lock Down drills are conducted to prepare students what to do in the event of any of these emergencies.
Early Dismissal	On Wednesdays school is dismissed at 1:10. These Early Dismissal days allow teachers time to work together in grade level teams, attend special trainings, and work together as a school.
Easy Money Programs	PTA fund raising methods that include Albertson's, Loyalty Cards, General Mills Box Tops, Matthew's Receipts, Toner Cartridges and Cell Phones. Save these items, turn them in and the PTA makes money. Learn more about these ways to give to our school on the PTA Website, http://www.eastgatepta.org/shop-and-save.html

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Emergency Contact Information	Contact information for parents, guardians and other adults to be used in the event of an emergency during the school day, such as injury or illness. Please contact the school immediately if this information changes.
Emergency Dismissal	The two best ways to find out about school closures or emergency dismissals due to weather or other emergencies are as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ◆ Emergency School Closure Info Line: 425-456-4111 ◆ Signing up for email/text alerts online at: http://www.bsd405.org/help/stayconnected/ ◆ www.schoolreport.org will also show weather closures.
Emergency Prep	PTA works with the school to fund and organize all the necessary plans and materials to provide for our children in the event of a major emergency such as earthquake. A shipping container on the east playground is stocked with a 3-day supply of food and water for the entire school.
ELL (English Language Learners)	English Language Learners. Students whose native language is not English and are not fluent in English receive special instructional time. The ELL program offered at Eastgate, and most other elementary schools, consists of an ELL teacher supporting them in their regular classroom.
E-News	Eastgate PTA weekly electronic newsletter; learn of all the happenings at our school through this weekly email. Sign up to receive the email on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/ Print copies are also available in the atrium on the PTA Bulletin Board.
Family Fun Night	Eastgate PTA sponsored spring or end of the year tradition involving dinner and fun activities for the family. Learn more on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/programs.html
First Day Coffee	Coffee and pastries in the Atrium and Courtyard on the 1 st day back to school. Learn more on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/programs.html
Field Day	Christian Barnes, our PE Teacher, organizes a fun afternoon the last week of school where the children play with various PE Equipment and can go from station to station. PTA provides many volunteers, water, and popsicles.

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Field Trips	A field trip is when a classroom, along with chaperones, travels to another location for a fun learning event. Common field trips are to museums, theatres and outdoor learning centers. Kindergarten through 3 rd grade classrooms must travel by bus, but all other grades usually travel with volunteer parent drivers. Volunteering to chaperone on a field trip is a fun way to share time with your child and help out the school. Students are only allowed to sit in seats with a seat belt and no air bag.
Free and Reduced Lunch	<p>Some students are eligible to receive lunch and/or breakfast for free or at a reduced rate. The identity of students participating in this program is completely confidential. Applications are available in the school office or go to https://www.bsd405.org/departments/nutrition-services/free-reduced/</p> <p>This term is also frequently used to refer to the percentage of students who receive a free or reduced price lunch. Students qualify for this program based on family income. The percentage of students receiving free or reduced lunch at a school is used to determine several state and federal funding levels.</p>
Gifted Programs	The Gifted Program provides self-contained services for identified students needing academic services at an advanced level and accelerated pace due to their ability to comprehend and process information. Gifted services provide instruction in the core content areas of language arts, social studies, science and math by teachers with training or experience working with gifted learners in a classroom of like ability peers. Students are provided differentiated instruction to meet their cognitive and academic needs at the appropriate level. Learn more on the BSD Website, https://www.bsd405.org/programs/gifted/
Grants	Generally refers to applications for money from the Bellevue Schools Foundation. Teachers or teams of teachers and parents write the grants to request funding for programs or materials not funded by the school district.
Homework	Homework varies by class and grade, but almost always includes nightly reading. Some teachers assign homework on a daily basis, and some weekly. Homework is generally viewed as a way to extend classroom learning, see if students are able to apply concepts learned in class and sometimes to complete time-consuming tasks such as handwriting practice. If you have any questions or concerns about the homework, please contact your classroom teacher as soon as possible. It is important to communicate these concerns as soon as possible.

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IEP	Individual Education Plan. Specialized and individualized plan developed for students needing extra services beyond Enrichment, ELL or LAP. For example, a student may need to use a keyboard for writing rather than a pen or pencil to accommodate a disability or difficulty. Plan is developed in cooperation with the classroom teacher, special education teacher, school nurse, school counselor and parents. Contact your classroom teacher if you think your child is in need of these services.
Kid Mail	Electronic Packet of community flyers, sent via PTLs. Includes Eastgate specific info, as well as flyers from local youth activity groups such as Park and Rec, YMCA, etc.
Legislative Chair	PTA position to monitor and support Legislative activity that affects our school.
Library	The Eastgate school librarian is Nancy Foster. Students in grades K-4 receive 40 minutes of library instruction per week. 5 th graders complete several research projects throughout the year in the library. Library books can be checked out only if the previous week's books have been checked in. PTA helps to organize volunteers to re-shelve books, cover books and assist students with research.
Loyalty Cards	Fund raising method. Loyalty cards from stores, such as Albertsons, QFC, Safeway, can be registered to earn money for Eastgate! Find out more on our website. http://www.eastgatepta.org/shop-and-save.html
Lunch	Students may bring their own lunch or purchase lunch in the school cafeteria. Lunch is \$3.00, Milk is \$0.50. Printed menus are sent home , copies are in the office and are also available at http://www.bsd405.org/departments/nutrition-services/lunch/
Marine Biology Field Trip	This field trip is taken by 5 th graders. They spend a day out on Puget Sound investigating sea life up close with a Marine Biologist. A portion of this field trip is funded either by BSF or by the PTA.
Matthew's Thriftway Receipts	Easy fund raising. Matthew's Thriftway Market, located on Lakemont Blvd, will contribute 1% of the net sales from all receipts we turn in. You can drop the receipts in the bins at school or send them to school with your children.
Nurse	The school nurse's office is staffed by trained parent volunteers 4 days a week during lunch/recess. The official school nurse, Nancey Goforth, is at Eastgate on Tuesdays.

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Olympic Program	The Olympic Program is a Special Education Program designed to meet the educational needs of students who have significant deficits in the areas of organizational skills, executive functioning skills, and social competency skills that are often associated with autism spectrum disorder. Learn more here https://www.bsd405.org/departments/sped/programs-services/
OT or Occupational Therapist	An OT is at Eastgate one day per week to provide services for children with IEPs. These services might include training in small and large motor skills. Contact your teacher for more information.
PACE	PACE: PTA ACADEMIC CURRICULUM ENHANCEMENT. The PACE Program is to provide resources to enhance the educational experience at Eastgate and help all students achieve academic excellence. See more and watch the video on the PTA Website, http://www.eastgatepta.org/pace.html
Parent Teacher Liaison (PTL)	Formally called a “room parent” or “Head Room Parent” (HRP). The PTL ensures that the families are being communicated with as directed by their teacher and through forwarding communications from the PTA. The function of the PTL is also to delegate and assign activities as needed for the classroom. (which can all be done via email.)
PayPAMS	An online service available to families to pay for and manage lunch balances electronically. There is no charge to register. A convenience fee of \$1.95 per student is charged for each payment submitted online. www.paypams.com
Picture Day	All students have an individual and a class picture taken, regardless of whether parents have ordered photos. These pictures are printed in the school yearbook. Photos are available for purchase.
Principal’s Newsletter: Eagle Sighting	Newsletter written by Steve Lesco, principal. “Eagle Sighting” will be sent home monthly and will list the upcoming events.
PRISM	Students who test at a very high level on a school administered qualifying test are eligible. PRISM is a separate, all-day program housed at Spiritridge Elementary. Only qualifying students are in PRISM classrooms.
Progress Reports/ Report Cards	Teachers prepare progress reports/report cards for all students 3 times per year – Fall, Spring and end of year.
PT or Physical Therapist	A PT is at Eastgate one day per week to provide services for children with IEPs. These services might include training in small and large motor skills. Contact your teacher for more information

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PTA	<p>Parent Teacher Association. This group funds and provides volunteers for many services for the school including social events and school-wide programs such as PACE and Young Authors Day. These volunteers help the school to stretch their resources.</p> <p>If you are interested in volunteering or would like more information contact the PTA by email at contactus@eastgatepta.org</p>
PTA Budget	<p>Planned revenue and expenses for PTA. Revenue comes from PTA dues, Fall Fundraiser and an Auction, which is held every other year. Expenses include \$300 for each classroom teacher to supplement the school budget, Young Author's Program, 4th Grade Ballet Residency, School Directory, Social Events, funding for special services such as reading assistance and a variety of other programs.</p>
Reflections	<p>State-wide art, photography, poetry, and music contest sponsored by PTA. All students are eligible. Every year is a different theme. See http://www.eastgatepta.org/reflections.html for details.</p>
School Dance	<p>School-wide dance, held at night in the gym with a DJ. PTA sponsored event. Different thymes every year! Ticket Sale flyers go home with the student prior to the dance.</p>
Smarter Balanced Assessment	<p>New state-wide standardized test, replacing the MSP. Administered in the Spring to 3rd, 4th, and 5th graders. See more online https://www.bsd405.org/2015/04/have-questions-regarding-smarter-balanced-assessments-start-here/</p>
SLP or Speech and Language Pathologist	<p>A speech therapist is at Eastgate one day per week to provide services to students. If you think your child is in need of these services please contact your classroom teacher or phone 425-456-5100 and ask to leave a message for the speech therapist.</p>
Specialists	<p>Bellevue full-day elementary students in grades K-4 receive 40 minutes of instruction per week with each of the 4 specialist teachers: Library, P.E., Music, and Art. Students in grade 5 receive 40 minutes of P.E. and Art per week and 80 minutes of Band or Orchestra. All 5th graders are required to play an instrument in Band or Orchestra.</p>
Spirit Week	<p>Week prior to the Walk-a-thon. Each day is a different theme – such as crazy hair day or backwards clothes day. Learn more on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/programs.html</p>
Social Media	<p>Eastgate PTA has a twitter and Facebook account, follow us! https://twitter.com/EastgatePTA https://www.facebook.com/EastgatePTA</p>

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STEM	Stands for Science, Technology, Engineering and Math. It is a special curriculum starting 2015-16 school year. See more one the BSD website: https://www.bsd405.org/about/initiatives/instructional-initiatives/ or the PTA Pinterest board https://www.pinterest.com/eastgatepta/what-is-stem/
Talent Show	PTA sponsored student entertainment event showcasing students who volunteer. Most rehearsals are held during lunch recess. Usually scheduled in early Spring. For more information, see http://www.eastgatepta.org/talent-show.html
Teacher Appreciation Week	For a week in the spring the PTA plans and coordinates events to express our thanks to teachers and staff. For more information, see http://www.eastgatepta.org/teacher-and-staff-appreciation-week.html on the programs page. Also see the PTA Pinterest Board for ideas.
Teacher Gifts	It is not unusual for students to give their teachers a small token of thanks at Winter Break and/or the end of the year. The tradition at Eastgate is for gifts to be a small token of appreciation such as a hand-made gift, a gift certificate to a bookstore or Lakeshore Learning. Gifts to staff must be less than \$25 in value. It is perfectly acceptable to not give a gift. A heartfelt letter, with copies to the principal, is often the most meaningful expression of thanks.
Toner and Cell Phone Recycling	PTA sponsored fund raising program. Turn in your empty Laser and Ink Jet toner cartridges or any old cell phones and in return we earn money. Usually brings in about \$200 per year.
VIBES	Volunteers In Bellevue's Education System. Program coordinated by the School District. Volunteers are assigned to work with specific students as a mentor. Generally must commit to one hour per week. VIBES volunteers often stay with the same student for several years and can include parents, grandparents or any other adults in the community. All volunteers are screened by the Washington State patrol. Learn more about volunteering on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/vounteering.html
VIPP	Visiting Instructor PTA Program. Replaced with PACE (see above)
Walk About Program	PTA Volunteer Program. Parents, grandparents or others are encouraged to walk the playground during the lunch hour. This provides staff with another set of eyes and ears and many kids love talking and walking with the volunteers.
Walk-a-thon	PTA sponsored fall fundraiser. Students collect pledges and then walk laps around the school during a 2 hour timeframe. There's a DJ, snacks, water and prizes for the students. See more on the PTA website http://www.eastgatepta.org/walk-a-thon.html

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Yearbook	PTA volunteers produce a school wide yearbook available for purchase at the end of the year. Includes class photos as well as lots of others. Yearbook includes photos of students taken during "Picture Day". All students' pictures are in the yearbook whether or not you purchase school pictures. Flyers are sent home with students to purchase the yearbooks.
Young Authors Day (YAD)	PTA sponsored program. All students produce their own "published book". Process includes rough draft, editing, and illustration. Culminates in a special day with a visit from a well-known children's author. Funded and organized by the PTA. Island Books on Mercer Island (a fun, independent bookstore) helps finance this program through sales of the visiting author's books, signed and personalized by the author. See details on the PTA Website http://www.eastgatepta.org/young-authors-day.html

Please contact Angela Anderson, angelandsn@outlook.com , if you have any questions or comments regarding this document.

You can contact the PTA by emailing contactus@eastgatepta.org