



January 19, 2016



# Owl Post

The official weekly newsletter  
of Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA

## Upcoming Events

**January 29**

**Spirit Wear Day**

STEM K-8



**February**

**Jump Rope for Heart**

Raising money for the American Heart Association.

**February 3**

**Focus Day**

Olympia

**February 4**

**PTA Meeting**

**6:30pm-8:00pm**

Boren Library

**February 15**

**No School**

Presidents Day

**February 16**

**No School**

Mid-Winter Break

(one day only)

**February 22**

**Franklin HS Lion Dancers**

**9:30am**

STEM K-8 Gymnasium

**[Check out last year's visit from the Lion Dancers!](#)**

**February 26**

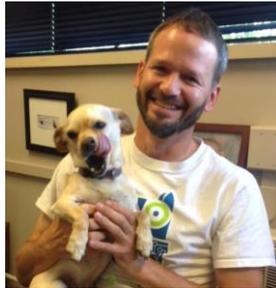
**Spirit Wear Day**

STEM K-8

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## A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

The MLK weekend offered a chance to reflect and act on the connection between service and social justice. STEM K-8 Project Based Learning tries to connect learning to real world issues. We need to more effectively teach students to ask questions about equity, race, and power as they create designs and models to

affect the world around them. This year our MLK Assembly was shifted to Monday, February 1 at 9:30am to bridge Martin Luther King Jr.'s quest for racial justice and Black History Month.

STEM K-8's winter PBL Exhibition highlighted learning projects across all of our grade levels. It was amazing to see the range of projects represented: weather vanes, bird habitats; community designs, structures created to withstand earthquakes and tsunamis, Washington state history, the Civil War (including an elemental role playing game set at Gettysburg), and Mars landers. The power of students engaged in multi-disciplinary learning on topics they're interested in was on full display. A selection of pictures from the evening can be viewed on my twitter feed [@PrinciPalOstrom](#) and on our [Facebook page](#).

I've had a few questions about STEM K-8's Continuous School Improvement Plan (CSIP), a requirement from Office of the Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI) that describes many of our goals and priorities. Seattle Public Schools experienced significant malfunctions from an ageing, web-based platform for CSIP's. Despite many hours and entries, the current priorities for STEM K-8 and several other schools are still not represented. At some point the system will be fixed or replaced, and the 2013-2015 STEM CSIP will be updated with current priorities.

Sincerely,  
Benjamin Ostrom  
*Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal*

To report a student absence or change of end-of-day plans please email BOTH Cindy Baca and Christa Howsmon [chettrick@seattleschools.org](mailto:chettrick@seattleschools.org), [cjhowsmon@seattleschools.org](mailto:cjhowsmon@seattleschools.org) or call the school office: (206) 252-8450

## Upcoming Events (continued)

**March 3**

**PTA Meeting**  
6:30pm-8:00pm  
*Boren Library*

**March 23**

**2-hour early dismissal**  
1:40pm  
*STEM K-8*  
Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm.

**March 25**

**Spirit Wear Day**  
*STEM K-8*

**March 26**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Annual STEM Auction**  
"Out of This World"  
5:30pm-11:00pm  
*Hall at Fauntleroy*

**April 7**

**PTA Meeting**  
6:30pm-8:00pm  
*Boren Library*

**April 11 – April 15**

**No School**  
Spring Break

**April 29**

**Spirit Wear Day**  
*STEM K-8*

Check out the school calendar [here](#).



## Before and After School Care Survey



The YMCA has asked us to assess the number of families who would be interested in before and/or after school care at STEM next school year. Care would be provided by the YMCA as it is now for Arbor Heights.

Please respond to our quick survey, thank you!

### [Before / After School Care Survey](#)

## Focus Day

**Seats are still available for the Focus Day bus! If there is lots of interest a second bus may be added. Get your FREE bus ticket on Eventbrite (you can find the link on our [Facebook page](#)).**



Join Washington State PTA in Olympia for the 2016 Focus Day on **Wednesday, February 3**.

The Columbia Room, 1st floor of the Legislative Building, has been reserved as a place to gather, share information and prepare for the day's events.

Bring your family and friends to meet with legislators and to rally in the main capitol building's Rotunda at noon.

<https://www.facebook.com/events>

## School Tours – Volunteers Needed



We are in search of volunteers to lead school tours. The tours take place every Wednesday and Friday morning from February 10 to 26. We need elementary and middle school families to share their experiences and show prospective families our school. If interested send an email to [tours@stemk8pta.org](mailto:tours@stemk8pta.org)

If you know any families who would like to find out more about STEM K-8, please point them in the direction of our [PTA website](#) where they can rsvp for tours and find out about our upcoming Open House.

## Stay Connected

[PTA Website](#) – all things PTA (become a member, volunteer, shop and earn, how YOU can be involved).

[STEM K-8 school website](#) – our SPS school website (curriculum, staff details and more).



[STEM K-8 Facebook](#)



[STEM PTA Twitter](#)



[Principal Ostrom's Twitter](#)

[Principal Ostrom's Blog](#)



[Mrs. B.'s Library Page](#)

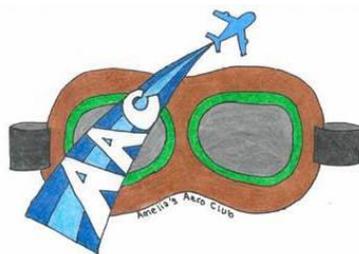


## Enrichment Update

All Enrichment classes (excluding Spoon River Anthology) start this week. If you signed up for winter enrichment classes and have not received a confirmation, please contact [afterschool@stemk8pta.org](mailto:afterschool@stemk8pta.org)

Two classes are still open for enrollment through Wednesday.

### Amelia's Aero Club is now open to 5<sup>th</sup> grade girls – and it's FREE!



Amelia's Aero Club @ Boren is an offshoot of the educational initiative of The Museum of Flight designed to inspire and nurture middle school girls' exploration of educational and career pathways in science, technology, engineering, art, aviation and mathematics (STEAM). For the 2015-16 school year we will be providing free

afterschool programming for Boren STEM K-8 5-6th grade girls that utilizes hands-on activities and project based learning. In our Winter session, AAC @ Boren STEM K-8 participants will continue to work on projects related to aviation and will start exploring projects in rocketry and aerospace.

**Grades: Girls only grades 5-6**

**Dates: Jan 22, 29, Feb 5, 12, 19, 26, Mar 4, 11**

**Time: Fridays 4:00 - 5:00pm**

**Location: Science Lab #145**

**Price: No charge/8 classes**

[REGISTER HERE](#)

### Stage Struck Winter Play - *Spoon River Anthology*

Open to 4<sup>th</sup>, 5<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Graders

This is a play that is mostly acting with some singing. The cast is all people from a small Illinois town who have died and are "sleeping on the hill": the local cemetery. Students will get a chance to hone their language and acting skills and will work as a tight ensemble. We will use student musicians to add to the color and flow of the show. Come be a part of Spoon River with us!

**Practices: Tuesdays and Thursdays 4:00 – 5:30pm Feb. 18 – April 23 (none during spring break)**

**Dress Rehearsal: starting 12:30pm on Saturday, April 23, Fautleroy UCC's Fellowship Hall**

**SHOW: 7:00pm Saturday, April 23, Fautleroy UCC's Fellowship Hall**

**Cost: \$195.00/17 practices, dress rehearsal, and performance.**

[REGISTER HERE](#)