A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

It’s the middle of the current school year, and we are full-on planning for the next one as well. I’m excited to share that the Seattle Education Association (SEA) and Seattle Public Schools’ Human Resources Department agreed to post openings for next year’s 7th grade classrooms starting February 1st; our new 7th grades are being treated as if they were a newly opening school. This is a good time to note that participation on hiring committees is a great way to become involved in school. All hiring committee participants must have taken a SEA hiring training. The next available is on February 9—details are available at http://seattlewea.org or the school office. Please let Cindy know if you are interested in participating. At this point we will advertise for 7th grade Math and Language Arts/Social Studies teachers. We will also use state Career and Technical Education resources to operate a 7th Grade STEM block.

We are also planning classroom and program locations for the 2016-17 school year and beyond. As Arbor Heights leaves (we will miss our neighbors) and STEM spreads throughout the building, a number of classrooms will move and building modifications will be required. The February 4, 6:30 pm PTA meeting will be devoted to families’ feedback on this topic. Please join us to share opinions and feedback.

Our MLK/Black History Assembly was shifted to Monday, February 1 at 9:30 AM in the school cafeteria. You’re welcome to join us!

Sincerely,
Benjamin Ostrom
Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal
Upcoming Events (continued)

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
3rd 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

May 2 – May 6
Teacher Appreciation Week
STEM K-8

May 5
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
Boren Library

May 27
Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8

May 30
No School
Memorial Day

Check out the school calendar here.

Out of This World!

STAR DATE 03-26-16
5:30pm – 11:00pm
Hall at Fauntleroy

See Owl Post pages 4, 5 & 6 for lots more details on our 3rd annual auction!

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.

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

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

A New App that Earns Money for our School!

Check out Benefit Mobile from eScrip, available for iPhone and Android.

The Group ID for STEM K-8 is 500043528

Benefit Gives While You Shop!

When you use the Benefit app at checkout at any of our participating retailers, a percentage of the transaction is donated to a school or non-profit of your choice. It’s as easy as a credit card and safer than a wallet.

Benefit gives between 5-20% of your everyday transactions to the school or non-profit of your choice. Download the free app and start contributing today.

Here are just some of the benefits of using Benefit:

1. Buy, manage and redeem your digital gift cards instantly.
2. Real-time balance tracking.
3. See what you’ve contributed at the push of a button.
4. Over 180 participating retailers like Target, Amazon and Whole Foods at launch, with many more to come!

HOW TO PARTICIPATE

1. Download the Benefit mobile app from the iTunes or Google Play Store.
2. Search for a school or non-profit that you’d like to support.
3. Shop at any of our participating retailers and use the app at checkout.
4. With each transaction a donation is made!

Need more info? Visit www.benefit-mobile.com
A long time ago in a galaxy far, far away...

OUT OF THIS WORLD – 2016 STEM K-8 Auction

When: March 26th from 5:30pm-11pm
Where: Hall at Fauntleroy: 9131 California Ave SW

Why does STEM have an Auction?
PTA’s support basic education in Washington State. The Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA supports both basics (library books, gym equipment, art supplies) and “extras” (Project Based Learning supplies, scholarships for before & after school clubs, technology equipment, PTA events like Back to School Bash, and Pi Day). With your support, our students get the basics AND the extras which is what makes STEM Out of This World!

We are dreamers, shapers, singers, and makers. -Babylon 5

Tickets
Available now: louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net

So say we all! -Battlestar Galactica
Volunteer & Dessert Dash
We couldn't pull this off without volunteers! Help is needed in the days leading up to the auction, for event setup, and during the auction itself. To sign up visit: signupgenius.com

Upcoming Auction Committee meetings are 7-8pm Uptown Espresso in the Junction Feb 8, Feb 29, March 14, and March 21.

We need 25 donated desserts to cap off the evening. Don't like to bake? Purchased desserts are welcome. Each dessert must serve 8-10. To donate a dessert, send an email to auction@stemk8pta.org.

We have done the impossible, and that makes us mighty. -Firefly

Sponsorship Opportunities
Sponsorship is another great way to support the auction! Levels range from $100 to $5,000 and include a variety of great benefits. Contact auction@stemk8pta.org for information on becoming a sponsor or in-kind donor.

You want weapons? We’re in a library! Books! The best weapons in the world! -Doctor Who

Donations
We are on the lookout for wine donations and color printing services.

Room parents: Feel free to organize (or ask for a parent to organize) a class basket. Pinterest is full of ideas, or contact auction@stemk8pta.org for ideas about class baskets - it's an easy, fun way for classes to contribute to the auction.

Fill out a procurement sheet at: louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net
Due by February 28, 2016.

Hasta la Vista, Baby. -Terminator 2
Attire
Sci-fi – Centauri or Cylon; River Tam or River Song; Cardassian or Lando Calrissian; Agent Mulder or Agent Coulson. Vulcan, Androids, Bug Eyed Monsters, Dr. Who, Aliens, Wall-e, Princess Leia, Mr. Spock, astronauts, geeks & nerds. Costumed, your favorite pair of jeans, or semi-cocktail all welcome.

Donnie: Why do you wear that stupid bunny suit?
Frank: Why are you wearing that stupid man suit? -Donnie Darko

Questions?
Contact auction@stemk8pta.org

Its continuing mission to explore strange new worlds, to seek out new life and new civilizations, to boldly go where no one has gone before. – Star Trek: The Next Generation