



May 16, 2016



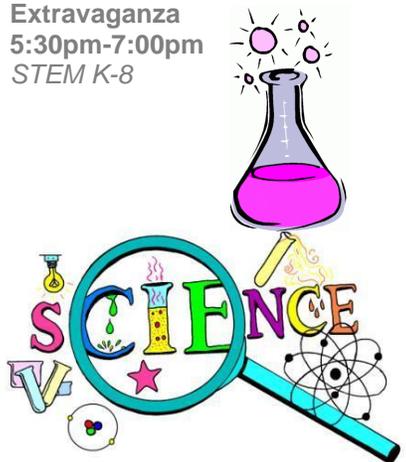
Owl Post

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

Upcoming Events

May 19

Spring Science/PBL
Extravaganza
5:30pm-7:00pm
STEM K-8



May 21

Garden Work Party
9:00am-1:00pm
STEM K-8



May 27

Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8

May 30

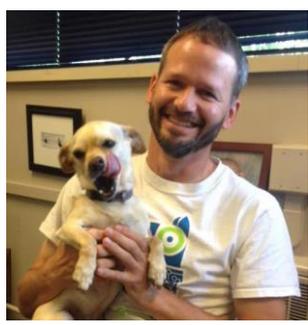
No School
Memorial Day



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A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

Hopefully **Thursday night's Science and PBL Extravaganza** is on your calendar. The event is scheduled from **5:30pm-7:00pm**, and will follow an open house format. You'll get to see central components of the STEM Vision come to life:

Growing 21st Century readiness in a community that values equity, sustainability, and the whole child; Developing rigorous STREAM skills to ask and answer audacious questions; Using Project Based Learning to tackle real world challenges.

For me it's the most amazing night of the year. There are significant overlaps between key components of Project Based Learning and Next Gen. Science and Engineering Practices; e.g. a PBL driving question can easily resemble Next Gen Practice #1 Asking questions and defining problems. Next Gen Practice # 2 is Developing and using models and #3 is Planning and carrying out investigations. Come join us on Thursday night and see what STEM K-8's students have been up to!

This week Ms. Colby's and Ms. Graves 3rd Graders will be taking the Smarter Balanced Assessment (SBAC) for math on Monday and Wednesday. Ms. Giza's and Ms. Newton's 4th Graders will be taking the Math SBAC on Tuesday and Thursday. As always, please have students arrive on time and rested.

At the beginning of June STEM staff will be making tentative class placements for fall. We don't announce next year's class placements because we often need to make adjustments in August. Creating classes that are balanced by gender, academic skills, and social needs is extremely complex. Therefore STEM K-8 **does not accept teacher requests**. We share families' interests in making the best possible class placement for their child. If you have things that you would like us to know about your child to help make the best placement possible (**other than teacher request**), you are welcome to submit it in writing to your child's teacher, Cindy, or me.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Ostrom
Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal

Upcoming Events (continued)

June 1

ALL LIBRARY MATERIALS
DUE

2-hour early dismissal

1:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm

June 1

Rocket Scientist Workshop

1:40pm – 3:40pm

Register [Here](#)

STEM K-8

June 2

PTA Meeting

6:30pm-8:00pm

Boren Library

Complimentary childcare
provided by PTA.

June 24

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

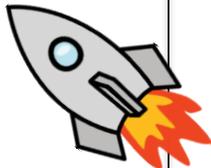
[Spirit Wear Day](#)

1-hour early dismissal

2:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 2:40pm.



Garden Work Party – Saturday, May 21



**Saturday May 21 9:00am-
1:00pm**

The focus of this second work party will be to finish installing the pollinator garden. If we have enough people, we will also work on the native plant garden and the vegetable beds.

Please wear attire appropriate for the weather conditions, and bring water. PTA will provide donuts and coffee in the morning and SPS will provide tools.

Questions? Contact Jen Greene jenaisa@gmail.com or 206-225-6621

More info. on our [PTA website](#).

Rocket Scientist Workshop – June 1

Date/Time: June 1, 1:40pm – 3:40pm **Ages:** K-6

Stick around the afternoon of June 1 (early release day) and bring out your inner rocket scientist. Students will learn how an air rocket launcher is built and then have the opportunity to design and build a rocket. Rockets will be launched in the latter part of the session and students given the opportunity to make modifications to their rockets based on their observations. Air rockets are powered by a burst of air and can travel up to 80 feet in the air. This is a great combination of art and science as students put scientific principles to work while getting creative with the design and decoration of their individual rockets. **3 – 2 – 1 blast off!**

Activity Schedule:

- 1:40 Early release, classes dismissed.
- 1:40 – 2:00 Gathering, snack (student provides), and tutorial on air rocket launchers
- 2:00 – 2:45 Rocket building
- 2:45 – 3:30 Rocket launching
- 3:30 – 3:40 Clean-up
- 3:40 Kiddo pick-up (no bus transportation provided)

Activity Fee: \$25 which includes supplies. Sign-up [online](#) or drop a paper registration in the box in the STEM office. Scholarships are available.

Special Notes: Kids should bring a snack/water bottle as these will not be provided. Pick-up is promptly at 3:40pm with no bus service or aftercare provided.

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](#)



Smarter Balanced (SBAC) / MSP Testing Schedule

Week of May 16	3 rd - 4 th Grade SBAC Testing: Math
Week of May 23	6 th Grade SBAC Testing: ELA and Math
May 31	5 th Grade Science MSP

Opting Out of Testing

If you would like to opt your student out of these tests you may do so by sending an email or hard copy letter to [Principal Ostrom](#) and [Cindy Baca](#). Include the name of your student and which tests you elect to opt them out of.

Fully Fund Our Schools – Sign the Petition!



The nonprofit Washington's Paramount Duty has a petition out now calling on our state to fully fund our public schools in the 2017 legislative session. They are almost up to their goal of 2,000 signatures. If you haven't signed yet, please do so!

[SIGN THE PETITION](#)

Benefit Mobile eScrip – Safeway, Starbucks & More!

Great news for our school fundraising! – Lots of local and online stores are participating in Benefit Mobile eScrip. This is the EASY way to earn 2% for our school on everyday expenditures!

Simply go to [Benefit Mobile](#) to download the app, select/claim K8 STEM Elementary (ID #50043528), and remember to use the app when shopping at Safeway, Starbucks, The Home Depot and many other businesses.

A reminder that, sadly, Target has ended their Take Charge of Education (REDcard) fundraiser after 19 years of providing support for schools. However, they are participating in Benefit Mobile. Thanks to everyone who registered their REDcard for STEM!

Thanks for 
choosing Benefit!