



May 23, 2016



# Owl Post

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

## Upcoming Events

May 27

[Spirit Wear Day](#)

STEM K-8

May 30

No School

Memorial Day



June 1

ALL LIBRARY MATERIALS  
DUE

2-hour early dismissal

1:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm

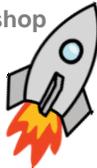
June 1

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

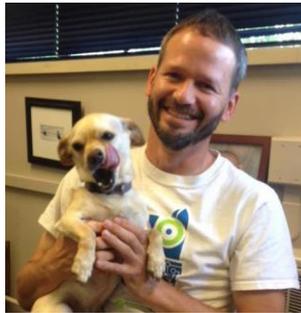
2:40pm.



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## A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

I hope you all had a chance to see the amazing learning exhibited during last Thursday's PBL and Science Extravaganza! Through Project Based Learning and Next Generation Science and Engineering work, STEM students participate in learning projects exploring real world problems and challenges. PBL experiences are based on inquiry and rigorous standards, integrate curriculum, and produce public displays of collaborative work. *STEM staff would not be able to facilitate these projects without additional resources and support provided by our families and the PTA.* West Seattle media captured portions of Thursday night. A wonderful piece from the West Seattle Herald is now also online, and features a ton of photographs from editor Patrick Robinson, plus descriptions of some of the great projects.

- West Seattle Herald: [SLIDESHOW: Boren STEM K-8 Science Extravaganza demonstrates ingenious inventions](#)
- West Seattle Blog: [Louisa Boren K-8 STEM students shine @ Science Extravaganza](#)

6<sup>th</sup> graders will be taking the SBAC Monday-Thursday this week. As always, please have students arrive on time and rested.

4<sup>th</sup> graders are headed to Islandwood Monday-Thursday. Enjoy your Field Science Experience 4<sup>th</sup> grade. Thanks to Ms. Giza, Ms. Newton, and all the Chaperones that make it possible!

Reminder from last week: At the beginning of June STEM staff will make 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

## Save the Date!

**September 7**

### Back to School

Welcome back for the 2016-17 school year!

**September 9**

### BACK TO SCHOOL BASH!

More details to come



Full SPS 2016-17 Calendar [here](#).



## STEM Pollinator Garden News



Unfortunately, Saturday's garden work party was cancelled due to rain. There's still lots to do in the pollinator garden, native plant garden and the vegetable beds.

If you'd like to help out, please contact:

Jen Greene [jenaisa@gmail.com](mailto:jenaisa@gmail.com) or 206-225-6621.

Teachers, Jen says she'd love to have some classes help out in the pollinator garden!

## End of Year Library Reminder



Dear STEM Families,

All library materials are encouraged to be returned on time with a final all school due date at 9:30 am on Wednesday, June 1. Please help your students to be responsible library users and return their library materials in a timely fashion.

Students with overdue materials will have the items converted into a library fine for the cost of replacing the materials. All overdue books, magazines, etc. must have their fines paid in full by Friday, June 17 in order for students to participate in Field Day. (We want all students to participate in Field Day, some students just need this additional incentive to return their materials or pay their fines.) We can accept checks or exact cash for library fines. By law, we are not allowed to keep money in the library for making change, as all money must be turned in to the office as soon as we receive it.

Please Note: Library Fines that are left unpaid follow the students throughout their years in Seattle Public Schools.

If you have any questions, please don't hesitate to contact me. Mary E. Bannister, Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Teacher-Librarian [mebannister@seattleschools.org](mailto:mebannister@seattleschools.org)

## 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

<b>Week of May 23</b>	6 <sup>th</sup> Grade SBAC Testing: ELA and Math
<b>May 31</b>	5 <sup>th</sup> 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.

### Lost & Found Reminder!



Please have your students retrieve any lost items.

**Remaining items will be removed at the end of the school day on Friday June 3,** and donated to Wellspring Family Services and Mary's Place.

### 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!