Upcoming Events

November 28 – December 6
Online Book Fair Open!
Book Fair

December 3 & 4
Book Fair Blizzard
5:30pm-8:00pm (Thurs.)
8:30am-10:00am (Fri.)
STEM K-8
3rd annual blizzard of books! Look out for famous mouse reporter Geronimo Stilton.

December 3
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
Boren Library
Please join us! Complimentary childcare provided by the PTA.

December 15
Winter Band Concert by STEM
4th, 5th & 6th grade students
6:30pm
Chief Sealth Int’l. High School
2600 SW Thistle St.
Seattle, WA 98126

Table of Contents

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom ................................................................. 1
Shop & Earn ................................................................................................. 2
All for Books Total, Book Fair Volunteer, Literacy Presentation, Got Stuff? Chinook Books ....... 3
Movie Night Total, Winter Band Concert ..................................................... 4
Book Fair Blizzard ...................................................................................... 5

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

Welcome back to school! I hope the extra days provided time for everyone to take some deep breaths. It’s a wonderful gift to find the space to hold family and friends at the center of our lives. Thanksgiving also highlights the contradictions between what we are grateful for, and the inequities that surround us. The gulf between our well-being and others’ needs is an opportunity for creative activism. Something I am constantly grateful for is the willingness of STEM families to invest in their school community and support all of our students. It’s inspiring!

If you were not able to meet with your child’s teacher, please contact them ASAP to schedule a make up. We are committed to making sure every family knows how their child is performing and how they can support them.

We head into the three-week intersession between Thanksgiving and Winter break with a full table of plates to set for the new year. The K-8 Design Team is tacking a number of issues in 7th grade planning, including schedule framework and course offerings. Federal guidelines regarding middle school staff qualifications create significant requirements. 7th grade also marks the beginning of state Career and Technical Education programs, which are not included in most K-8’s but represent important STEM learning. The Leadership Team is also beginning to plan for Boren building usage after Arbor Heights moves out. Where to place grades, programs, and individual classrooms within the Boren building raises a number of questions that we are starting to address now.

Two upcoming opportunities to join in Louisa Boren STEM K-8 activities: our 3rd annual Book Fair Blizzard takes place Thursday December 3, 5:30pm-8:00pm and Friday December 4, 8:30am-10:00am. Also on Thursday, please join us for a Literacy Presentation by STEM Librarian Mary Bannister and the STEM Literacy Team, at the PTA Meeting - 6:30pm-8:00pm in the library. As always, the PTA will provide complimentary childcare.

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

December 18
Author Visit
STEM K-8
Kelly Milner Halls

December 18
1-hour early dismissal
2:40pm
STEM K-8
Pick your Owls up at 2:40pm.

December 21 – January 1
No School
Winter Break

Holiday Shopping? Earn Cash for our School!
Today is Cyber Monday – when online retailers offer lots of deals. If you’re doing some shopping online or in stores don’t forget that many of your purchases can benefit our school. Here’s a reminder of all the ways to earn money for STEM K-8 when doing your holiday shopping and all year round.

Use this link to shop at Amazon, and 7% of your purchase amount will be donated to our school. Support STEM and shop in your pajamas from home - what could be better? You can always find our Amazon link on the front page of the STEM PTA website.

Important Note: Shopping via this link earns our school much more money than using Amazon Smile.

If you have a Target REDcard be sure to register it in their Take Charge of Education program. 1% of purchases on your REDcard will come back to our school. Visit Target.com/tcoe or call 1-800-316-6142 to designate Louisa Boren STEM K-8.
Our ID number is: 153701

If you would like to apply for a REDcard, learn more at Target.com/redcard or stop in at a Target store. The REDcard saves you 5% on all Target purchases every day. It's available as either a credit or debit card.

Grandparents, friends and neighbors are all welcome to participate in the program. The more people we involve, the harder the program works for us. Sadly, Target has announced that the Take Charge of Education program will end in May 2016. So, let's make the most of it while we can!

Make cards, calendars, photo books and more at Shutterfly, Tiny Prints or MyPublisher. Click on our STEM School Storefront and 13% of your purchases will be donated to our school!

This offer applies to all Shutterfly brands (Borrowlenses, MyPublisher, Shutterfly, ThisLife Tiny Prints, Treat and Wedding Paper Divas).

PCC
Order your $25 PCC scrip card here. Our school earns 5% each time you use it. You can reload it and use it every time you shop at PCC.

West Seattle Thriftway
Please drop your West Seattle Thriftway receipts off in the donation box in the school office. 1% of the purchase price of every item you buy is returned to our school.

More Shop & Earn Opportunities on our website.
Upcoming Events (continued)

January 4
Back to School!
STEM K-8

January 7
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
Boren Library

January 13
2-hour early dismissal
1:40pm
STEM K-8
Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm.

January 14
Winter PBL Display
TBA
STEM K-8

January 18
No School
Martin Luther King, Jr. Day

February
Jump Rope for Heart

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)

Check out the school calendar here.

All for Books Raises $560!
A big thank you to everyone who rounded up spare change. The money will go towards buying books for classroom libraries.

But we didn’t just raise money for STEM kids – Scholastic will match the amount we collected by donating books to charities that help children.

Volunteer for the Book Fair Blizzard!
We need lots of volunteers to help make our Book Fair a big success. You will receive a $5 book fair gift certificate for every two-hour time-slot you volunteer for. Click on the SignUpGenius logo below.

Literacy Presentation at this Week’s PTA Meeting
Did you know that Seattle Public Schools do not have a district wide literacy curriculum? Join us at Thursday’s PTA meeting for a short and informative presentation by the STEM Literacy Team. They will share their current literacy work and answer our questions. Following the presentation, meeting attendees will have the opportunity to take part in an advocacy project asking SPS to adopt a literacy curriculum. The PTA meeting will be short and sweet so everyone has plenty of time to shop at the book fair. Principal Ostrom will also be there to answer questions and give a school update.

Got Stuff? Looking for old Laptops, Gears, LEGO, and More!
Ms. Schmick is seeking the donation of old laptops for students to use in Tech Lab. She is also looking for toys like gears, LEGO, K’Nex, magnetic letters, and other materials to use with students with the vision of a future maker space. If you have plans to get rid of something, check in with Ms. Schmick at jaschmick@seattleschools.org to see if it may have a future at STEM K-8.

Get Your Chinook Books Here!
Order your Chinook Books (print or app) online here.
Or drop a hard copy order form off in the school office (you should have received one in “Kid Mail” before the Thanksgiving holiday).
Book – $22
App – $15
Book and App - $30
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

---

Movie Night Raises $1,500!
We had a fantastic turnout for Movie Night on November 21. Families packed the cafeteria to watch Inside Out and enjoy popcorn, root beer floats and other treats. 4th graders and their families organized the event. The funds raised will provide scholarships for the 4th grade trip to Islandwood on Bainbridge Island.

---

Winter Band Concert – December 15
4th, 5th and 6th grade band students have been working hard this year and are excited to bring to you their winter performance. The whole school community is invited. Start time will be 6:30pm. Performers, please arrive by 6:00pm, to get instruments assembled and become acquainted with the space if you have not been there before.

When:
Tuesday, December 15 at 6:30pm

Where:
Chief Sealth International High School
2600 SW Thistle St.
Seattle,
WA 98126
All purchases benefit the STEM K-8 Library

Bring the Whole Family!

Thursday, December 3rd 5:30pm - 8pm

Friday, December 4th 8:30am - 10am

**Book Fair is also online**

(Nov. 28th through Dec. 6th)

Here you'll find a bigger selection of books (from preschool to adult). You can also send wish-lists and e-cards to family and friends.

**Book Fairs App Makes Finding the Right Book a Snap!**

The Scholastic Book Fairs app is free and available for both iPhone and Android. With any scan of a book cover or barcode these details are displayed:

- Reading levels (AR, Lexile, DRA and Guided Reading)
- Appropriate age and grade
- Book summary
- Price
- Videos and podcasts
- Awards
- eBooks
- Reading Counts quiz indicated

Search thousands of titles to find recommendations on similar books, create wish-lists, and purchase books online.