



September 21, 2015



Owl Post

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

Upcoming Events

September 23

2-hour early dismissal

1:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm.

September 23

PTA Meeting

6:30pm-8:00pm

Boren Library

Uniform Swap. Lots of opportunities to volunteer. Complimentary childcare provided by the PTA.

October 1

Curriculum Night & Open House

6:30pm-8:00pm

STEM K-8

October 2

5th Grade Meet & Greet

2:45pm-3:35pm

In Ms. Martin and Mr. Gluck's classrooms.

October 2

STEM Social at TAF (adults only)

TBA

*TAF 605 SW 108th St.
Seattle, WA 98146*

Join us for light refreshments (beer, wine, soda, coffee & light appetizers).

October 8

PTA Meeting

6:30pm-8:00pm

Boren Library

Please join us! Complimentary childcare provided by the PTA.

October 15

School Picture Day

STEM K-8

Individual pictures (class pictures are taken in spring).

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

Welcome back! It feels great to have our halls filled with scholars again! We are living a famous W. H. Murray quote (inspired by a loose translation of Goethe): "Until one is committed, there is hesitancy, the chance to draw back, always ineffectiveness. Concerning all acts of initiative (and creation), there is one elementary truth that ignorance of which kills countless ideas and splendid plans: that the moment one definitely commits oneself, then Providence moves too. All sorts of things occur to help one that would never otherwise have occurred. A whole stream of events issues from the decision, raising in one's favor all manner of unforeseen incidents and meetings and material assistance, which no man could have dreamed would have come his way. Whatever you can do, or dream you can do, begin it. Boldness has genius, power, and magic in it. Begin it now."

And so the school year has begun! An inspired lurch forward, our K-8 journey carried on ripples that will awash unknown shores.

Back to the concrete: **Wednesday, 9/23 is an early release day!** School ends at 1:40pm to support teacher professional development. **Wednesday evening** please join us from 6:30-8 for the rescheduled first PTA meeting of the year, where we will be discussing our emerging Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Vision and more. **Thursday and Friday** during the school day NASA astronauts and Boeing engineers will be visiting as a part of a developing partnership with the Museum of Flight. Finally, please take note of our newly digital [Back to School Packet](#). There are lots of required forms that are due! We have created an electronic forms hub to make school forms easier for families to access. In particular, please make sure you fill out the FERPA release. Under new guidelines this now serves as a media release. We are working on new ways to connect student learning with the outside world, and communicate with families— media releases are a vital component.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Ostrom
Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal

STEM K-8 Schedule

Event	Time
First Bell	9:25am
Tardy Bell	9:30am
Primary Recess (grades K, 1, 2)	10:35am-10:50am
Lunch and Recess I (grades 3, 4, 5)	12:25pm-1:00pm
Lunch and Recess II (grades K, 1, 2)	12:45pm-1:20pm
Lunch and Recess III (grade 6)	1:05pm-1:40pm
Intermediate Recess (grades 3, 4, 5)	2:20pm-2:35pm
Last Bell	3:40pm

Upcoming Events (continued)

October 22

PTA Potluck TBA

STEM Cafeteria
Harvest festival with pumpkin decorating.

October 28

2-hour early dismissal 1:40pm

STEM K-8
Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm.

November 1

Pumpkin Chunkin'! TBA

STEM Playfields
3rd annual chance to [smash those pumpkins](#) in creative and scientific ways!

December 2 - 4

Book Fair Blizzard Schedule TBA

STEM K-8
3rd annual blizzard of books!
Look out for famous mouse reporter Geronimo Stilton.



Fall Enrichment – Before and After School Programs

Registration is Open! Do your kids want to drum or play tennis, build robots or cook, jump rope or join a full stage production of *Grease*? We have an amazing line up of classes for our Fall Enrichment. Many of our teachers are hosting classes this year including a lunchtime Glee club. Registration is easy on the PTA website. There is a fee for classes and students must be registered ahead of time. [Go online today and register for your favorite classes](#). Scholarships are available. If you have questions contact our Enrichment Coordinator Linnea at afterschool@stemk8pta.org.

Looking Forward to the Year Ahead: from PTA President Rebecca Garcia



Welcome back Owls and welcome new families!

I am so excited to get the new school year under way.

The PTA board has lots of ideas for how to get our community together, to celebrate, learn and meet new friends. We'll need your input and energy to make it all happen.

I have been thinking a lot about what the PTA does, the real intention and what I hope it stands for. I believe it is here to bridge the gap, if one exists, between families and school. The PTA is an organization formed to facilitate connections and provide support. We do this with the funds provided by the community we serve, all of you and it is your input that keeps the PTA moving forward.

We are a new school; this is only our fourth year and we have already accomplished so much. As I think about the year ahead I am reminded of a quote by a favorite poet Antonio Machado that goes, "Traveler, there is no path, the path must be forged as you walk." I hope you will join me on the path this year to bring STEM K-8's growing vision to life.

- Our first PTA meeting was moved to **Wednesday, September 23**. We will be talking about the year ahead.
- Like our [Facebook page](#), check [our website](#) often and make sure the school office has the best email address to reach you, it's the primary way we communicate.
- Our Fall Fundraiser is almost here already, our Direct Give will kick off in October, let me know if you are interested in helping organize.
- Please reach out to me anytime with ideas or concerns president@stemk8pta.org

Rebecca Garcia
PTA President

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](#)

School Supplies

School staff ordered supplies for STEM students in bulk, so there is not a school supply list. Please bring cash or a check for \$35 per student (made out to STEM K-8) in an envelope. Write your child's name & grade on the envelope.

Become a Room Parent!

Each classroom has a parent, family member or guardian who supports the teacher, communicates with families in the class and makes connections between the classroom and the PTA. It's an important role, but it does not require that you are on site at school or present during school hours. If you are interested please contact vp@stemk8pta.org.

Uniform Closet

The STEM K-8 PTA has a Uniform Closet for families in need of assistance and to provide emergency change of clothing for students while at school. It is not required to prove need.

If you would like clothes from the Uniform Closet you can [download and fill out this form](#) and place it in the PTA mailbox in the school office.

Uniform Swap

At the PTA Meeting Sept. 23rd 6:30pm – 8:00pm

Bring your gently-used uniform items that no longer fit, and swap them for some that do!

PTA Membership

Get a new membership or renew (you must renew your PTA membership each year).

Non-Voting Membership – FREE

Voting Membership - \$15

[Sign Up Online](#)