Upcoming Events

January 4
6:30 PM
PTA Meeting
Join STEM families and staff for discussion on public school funding issues and how you can get involved.
STEM K-8 Library

January 10
7 PM
Join advocacy efforts to promote funding of public education in Washington state by attending our next PTA Advocacy Committee Meeting
Uptown Espresso on Delridge
3845 Delridge Way SW

January 16
No School

January 16
8 AM
On the Martin Luther King Jr holiday join the Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Caravan to Olympia for a rally to fully fund our schools on the Capital Steps at 10:30 AM.
Meet at Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Parking lot, caravan to Washington State Capital Building

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Happy New Year! 2017 is here—ready or not! It’s popular to think about what to do differently at the beginning of a new year. However, I’m going to take the first Owl Post of 2017 to celebrate some amazing accomplishments from last fall. Since last July, STEM K-8 has integrated 16 staff members, approximately 100 new students, eight more classrooms, two classes of 7th graders, undertaken significant renovations, and added five programs that were not a part of STEM K-8 in 2015-16.

Say that all in one breath! Not every step has been smooth, but those who were able to attend our Winter PBL Extravaganza on December 8 saw that the STEM K-8 Vision is alive and kicking. Our partnership with staff and families is growing a special school that strives to deliver a unique education to all our children. Bring on whatever the New Year’s got!

Thanks for all you do to support your children and STEM K-8.

Thank you,

Ben Ostrom, Principal STEM K-8

Learn More About the Public Education Budget Gap and How to Get Involved

Attend the STEM K-8 PTA meeting tonight, Wednesday January 4th from 6:30-8:00 in the library to learn more about Seattle Public Schools projected $74 million budget shortfall for next year and how it relates to state education funding.

The Advocacy Committee will share a short presentation with time for Q&A, discussion and next steps. You can join in our efforts by attending our next Advocacy Committee Meeting at Uptown Espresso, 3845 Delridge Way SW, on Tuesday January 10th from 7-8 PM.

SAVE THE DATE. Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Caravan to Olympia on Monday January 16th. We will meet in the school parking lot at 8 am on the Martin Luther King Jr holiday, and then head down to Olympia for a rally for Fully Funding our Schools on the Capitol Steps at 10:30. Wear Red for Ed(ucation) or your STEM spirit wear. Bring the kids! More details coming soon.
Happy New Year and Welcome to Winter Enrichment

**VOLUNTEERS NEEDED.** Classes begin next week on Monday, January 9. We still need parent volunteers for many classes. If you can volunteer, your student can be registered at half price.

The following classes still need parent volunteers: Chess4life, Martial Arts, Tennis, Drumming, Bridge, Wednesday Carpentry, Amelia's Aero Club, Basketball, Watercolor Painting, Lego Eco Engineering, and Girls Rock Math.

**TENNIS SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE.** Great News! The USTA offers $8 scholarships to students who qualify for free or reduced lunch through our registration link on their website.

**REGISTRATION STILL OPEN:** Please go to the school PTA website and click on activities to see all classes and register for Winter Enrichment. [Register online on the STEM K-8 Website](#).

Contact Cassandra O'Neal at afterschool@k5stempta.org to Volunteer or request a scholarship

**SAVE THE DATE:** STEM K-8 Auction, *SteamPUNKed*

**When:** April 1 from 5:30pm-11pm  
**Where:** Hall at Fauntleroy, 9131 California Ave SW

Mark your calendars now for the annual auction where we come together as a community to celebrate and support the STEM mission at Louisa Boren STEM K-8. 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 awesome! Tickets available soon, find more information on the [STEM K-8 website](#).

**GLOBAL READING CHALLENGE TEAM MEETINGS**

**Meeting Dates:** January 4, 11, 18, 25th and February 8, 15th.  
**Time 12:55 – 1:15** during Intermediate Recess in the library

These times will be reserved exclusively for GLOBAL READING practice. READ! READ! READ! READ! READ!
STEM Students Doing Good: Beezus Murphy

Last month we highlighted 7th Grade STEM student Beezus Murphy’s clothing drive for The James W. Orion YouthCare Center. See how you and other community members helped her achieve her mission to help homeless youth in our area while fulfilling the 7th grade volunteer hour requirement.

The Coat, Hoodie & Sock Drive was a huge success. Thank you, everyone, for opening your heart and your closets for the homeless youth served by YouthCare. With your help, we collected the following for homeless youth.-Beezus Murphy, 7th grade.

- Socks - 160 pairs
- Underwear - 71
- Blankets - 4
- Gloves - 38
- Leggings - 36
- Hats - 8
- Nail polish - 27
- Coats – 20
- Hoodies - 29
- Scarves - 11
- Shoes - 1
- Jeans - 5
- Hair products – 18
- Ear buds - 20

![Beezus Murphy holding a sign for the coat, hoodie, and sock drive.](image-url)