



October 3, 2016



Owl Post

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

Upcoming Events

October 3

Fall Enrichment Classes Start

Before and after school enrichment classes start this week. [See full calendar here.](#)

October 1

Annual Direct Give Fundraiser Kick Off

October 5

6:30 PM

Screenagers. Growing up in the Digital Age

A free documentary screening and community discussion sponsored by STEM K-8 PTA
STEM K-8 Cafeteria

October 5

Picture Day!

Look for order forms in backpacks or [download one here](#)
STEM K-8

October 14

No School

October 26

2:05

2-hour early dismissal

October 27

6:30 PM

STEM K-8 Harvest Festival

Mark your calendar to celebrate the season with STEM friends and family



A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



STEM staff used their 9/29 release time wisely! With a number of new staff members, we held the first session of ongoing professional development in Project Based Learning (PBL). Put December 8 on your calendars for our fall PBL celebration.

Thanks also to those that were able to join us for Curriculum night. We're growing and it's good to see families from across all of our grades cross paths.

2016-2017 Direct Give Fundraising Campaign Begins Today

Project Based Learning is one of many STEM experiences supported by PTA Direct Give funds: staff are provided with additional time for PBL planning, funds to purchase materials and experiences, and additional staff support (in the form of Sarah Waldron). The Direct Give also supports hundreds of STEM library books, additional technology, tools, construction materials, scientific instruments, software and more. The 2016-17 Direct Give campaign starts today! Please consider making a donation at whatever level you are able. Learn more about how to give on page 2.

Wednesday Oct. 5 @ 6:30 PM. *Screenagers, Growing up in the Digital Age*

Everyone is invited to join us on Wednesday, October 5th for a screening of Screenagers, in the STEM cafeteria from 6:30-8:30 pm. Children 10 and over are welcomed to attend with an adult family member. The PTA will also provide childcare for children ages 5-9. www.screenagersmovie.com.



Ben Ostrom

Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal

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](#)

The Annual Direct Give Campaign Starts Now!



Welcome to the annual STEM K-8 **Direct Give Campaign**, our first fundraiser of the year. Our kids are always pushing to go higher, to see more. That is why we choose STEM. We want them to climb higher and do more than they could anywhere else.

The STEM K-8 PTA serves as the roots of the STEM community and supports funding for every aspect of our unique school. State and local funding is terribly inadequate to support the vision of our school and provide the level of services, support, and materials we need for all of our students.

With the support of families and local businesses, STEM K-8 PTA has enriched the baseline curriculum by investing in technology, art, literacy, engineering, Project Based Learning, playground equipment, science fair projects, scholarships, emergency equipment, teacher training, field trips, and community events. It's only with your financial support that STEM K-8 PTA can continue to create opportunities for every student.

Our goal is \$35,000 in the month of October.

The Direct Give Campaign ensures that each dollar you donate goes directly to the school. Each donation is tax deductible, and many employers will match donations, increasing your gift to our school and community.

The PTA invites everyone in our community (including friends, neighbors and relatives) to give what they can today. Every dollar makes a difference. **Help us climb higher on the tree.**

To Donate:

- [Submit a payment online](#)
- [Did you want to setup recurring payments?](#)
- Checks can be made out to: Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA. Return the donation form to the STEM K-8 PTA mailbox at STEM or mail to: STEM K-8 PTA 5950 Delridge Way Seattle, WA 98106

Get Involved!

Are you looking for a way to get involved? All current opportunities are listed on [STEM K-8 Sign Up Genius Page](#).

Volunteers Needed This Week

[Room Parents Still Needed!](#)

[Direct Give Fundraising Committee](#)

School Picture Day is Wednesday, October 5th!

Student picture day is this Wednesday, October 5th. If you didn't find an order form in your student's backpack, [download one here](#). Send completed order forms to school with your student on picture day.

Paid Hourly Position at STEM K-8

STEM K-8 has positions open for daily and substitute Playground and Lunchroom supervision. If you are interested, please contact Cindy @ 206-252-9450.

Volunteer at STEM K-8!

A few classrooms still need a Room Parent, see where volunteers are needed on [the Sign Up Genius page](#). If you've already signed up to volunteer and have filled out volunteer forms, be sure to stop by the office so we can make a copy of your ID.

Join the STEM K-8 Advocacy Committee!

The Advocacy Committee is an open membership group that works as a part of the Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA advocating for a variety of issues pertinent to our school and the larger community. Last year we:

- Passed PTA Resolution #1 calling upon our state to fully fund our public schools.
- Organized a school wide family post card drive calling for a district wide literacy curriculum adoption.
- Provided lapel stickers for students on an advocacy day field trip to Olympia.
- Organized a second post card drive calling for Library funding equity throughout the district.
- Hosted a walk in day last February, as part of an all SPS day of action to demand fully funding our Washington schools.

Are you interested in joining us or possibly just curious and would like to learn more? Join us at our first meeting of the school year, Tuesday October 11th from 7-8 pm at Uptown Espresso, 3835 Delridge Ave SW, 98106. Hope to see you there! For more info, contact Shawna Murphy, Advocacy Committee Chair at southernstreetkids@yahoo.com

How to Help Victims of the Lam Bow Fire

Last week 47 of our neighbors at the Lam Bow apartments were left homeless after a fire destroyed the building. Most of the victims are now, or soon will be, re-housed. However, residents who have lost their belongings may need financial assistance to rebuild their lives after the fire. If you would like to make a donation, the Seattle Housing Authority has set up the [Lam Bow Fire Relief Fund](#) to direct assistance to those in need.