



December 5, 2016



Owl Post

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

Upcoming Events

December 5

6:30 PM

Shrek! the Musical Performance

Join us for the Sing Out Seattle Production

STEM K-8 Elementary Cafeteria

December 5

7:00 PM

STEM High School Pathways Planning Meeting

Join a brief planning meeting to start thinking about a high school pathway for STEM K-8 Students

Uptown Espresso on Delridge

December 7 & 8

Book Fair Blizzard

3:00 PM-6:00 PM (Weds.)

8:30 AM-10:00 AM (Thurs.)

5:30 PM-8:30 PM (Thurs.)

4th annual blizzard of books!

STEM K-8

December 7

6:30 PM

K-8 Winter Band Concert

4th-7th grade band students will perform in our winter concert on Wednesday at Chief Sealth High School. Call time for performers is 6:00pm.

Chief Sealth High School

December 8

6:30 PM

STEM K-8 Winter PBL Night

STEM K-8

December 13

7:00 PM

Advocacy Committee Meeting

Uptown Espresso on Delridge

December 16

3:05 PM

1-hour Early Dismissal

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



It's going to be a busy week at STEM. Monday, Dec. 5, families can see Shrek the Musical in the cafeteria at 6:30 pm. Due to scheduling complications, the band concert is now scheduled for Wed, Dec. 7 at 6:30 PM at Chief Sealth. Wednesday and Thursday is Book Fair. And then for the big one—our Winter PBL Night on Thursday, Dec. 8 from 6:30-8:00 pm. STEM's classrooms will be displaying Project Based Learning work throughout the school.

2nd grade teachers have a professional development conflict that evening, and will be sharing their PBL work on January 19. However, 2nd grade families are still invited to tour throughout the school. Some grade level PBL happenings you are likely to see evidence of on Thursday night:

Kindergarteners have been researching, engineering, writing, and painting on zoo homes.

3rd grade is working with Camp Long, Delridge Wetlands, and Seattle Parks to apply what they know about owls and other species. They have dissected owl pellets and will be making models of owl perches. Students will later install a class owl perch in a local forest area.

4th graders continue to explore Washington State history and the effects of water, ice, wind, and vegetation on land. They are engineering solutions to flooding problems. In December, students will also be learning about the Native American culture of the Northwest through 2 guest speakers.

5th grade is planning spring field trips for water and astronomy units. 5th graders will attend National Geographic Live in February to see Kenny Broad, cave diver and accomplished scientist.

2nd Graders won't be displaying on Thursday, but are starting a unit on how communities work and how people affect the environment. They are exploring the history, strengths, places, water ways and community challenges of the Delridge neighborhood. They are kicking off the project with learning walks on the Longfellow creek trail. The project will combine Social studies and science content and apply math and literacy skills.

Members of the STEM Equity Team will be gathering feedback from families during the winter PBL night on ideas and concerns around issues of equity, race, and opportunity. They will have 'EQUITY TEAM' badges. The Equity Team is a group of families and staff working to make STEM K-8 more inclusive, equitable and supportive of all families in ways that will support each of our students excel. The input of all families is vital information to support their work.

Finally, two ways you can help students in our community.

- 1) We are collecting old duvet covers and foam pillows to create sensory pads for some of our Distinct students. If you have old ones laying around that you could donate to the effort, drop them off at the office.
- 2) STEM K-8 Holiday Giving Tree. If you have the resources to help a student in our community, choose an ornament from our Giving Tree, going up in the STEM office this week. Gifts are due by Dec. 14. Read below for more info.

Thanks,

Ben Ostrom

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](#)

Get Involved

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

Volunteer at the Book Fair

Receive a \$5 Book Fair gift certificate for every two-hour time-slot you volunteer for. See full details on [the Sign Up Genius Page](#)

Library Volunteers

Looking for helpers to shelve, label and check books in and out. [See full details on Sign Up Genius](#).

Registration Open for Winter Enrichment Classes

Registration is now open for another fantastic line-up of enrichment classes starting in January. There is something for everyone with classes available for students kindergarten through 8th grade. [See full class details here](#) and register online at www.stemk8pta.org/activities. If needed, download a paper form and turn it into the PTA Enrichment Program mailbox in the front office with your payment.

Volunteers: One volunteer is needed for each class. Volunteers will help with signing students in and out of class, as well as helping instructors. Volunteers will receive ½ tuition rate for the class and priority enrollment.

If you would like to volunteer and receive a 50% reduction in class tuition, need a scholarship, or have any questions, contact Cassandra O'Neal at afterschool@k5stempta.org.

Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Holiday Giving Tree

You can help families in our STEM community, who otherwise may not have much hope of receiving gifts for the holidays. If you have the resources to help a student in our community please choose an ornament off our Giving Tree, going up in the STEM office this week. Gifts include those that are needed, wanted, and books. Please wrap the gift and attach the ornament tag you took from the garland so we can identify it. **Return to the office by December 14.** If you want to participate, but can't get into the office to grab a tag, email the president@stemk8pta.org and we will email you info.

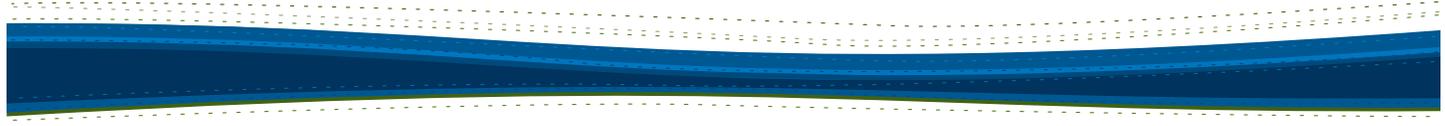
From the School Nurse – HPV Immunization Update and AFM Warning

Exciting news regarding a change in HPV recommendations. Children and adolescents aged 14 years and younger need just two, not three, doses of the human papilloma virus (HPV) vaccine, according to an updated recommendation from the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP). Click [here](#) for more information.

Update on Acute Flaccid Myelitis (AFM): As of 11/29, there have been 9 confirmed pediatric cases in Washington state, and three more suspected. The cause is still unknown. Basic hand hygiene and being up-to-date on vaccinations is still considered the best prevention. Signs/symptoms of AFM vary in severity, but include limb or one-sided facial weakness and/or absence of movement. You can read more at <http://www.cdc.gov/acute-flaccid-myelitis/index.html>.

Lost & Found: Claim Items before Holiday Break

Please come in and check the rack for lost coats, sweaters and lunch boxes. Left items will be removed after school on Friday December 16th and donated to charity.



STEM K-8 Book Fair This Week

Our annual Book Fair Blizzard is on this week! The Book Fair is a reading event that provides the books kids want to read. It's a wonderful selection of engaging and affordable books for every reading level. Bring the whole family to browse and shop for Scholastic books at STEM K-8.

- Wednesday, December 7. 3:00–6:00 PM
- Thursday, December 8. 8:30–10:00 AM & 5:30 – 8:30 PM

***We're looking for volunteers to make the Book Fair happen. Receive a \$5 Book Fair gift certificate for every two-hour time-slot you volunteer for. *** See full details on [the Sign Up Genius Page](#)

Prefer to shop from home? The [Book Fair is also online](#) Dec.5 through Dec. 18. 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 you get essential details, including summary, reading levels, age and grade guidance and more.

The *All for Books* Winning Classroom

Congratulations to Ms. Giza's class, for raising the most money in our All for Books campaign! They raised a grand total of \$112! Runner up was Ms. Colby's class, who raised \$68! Special mention for Ms. Morgan, Ms. Brodland, and Ms. Nur's classes - who also did a fantastic job raising money.

Each teacher will receive a Scholastic gift certificate in the amount raised - so they can buy books for their classroom from our Book Fair Blizzard.

Save the Date: Upcoming Community Events

LEGO Robotics Workshop at Delridge Library

Sunday, Dec. 11, 1-4 PM. Your student can design and build a robot with [Skunk Works Robotics](#)! In this 3-hour workshop, kids will design, build and program their own Lego robots to compete in a game at the end of the workshop. For ages 9-14. Registration required; call 206-733-9125 to register. Delridge Library, 5423 Delridge Way SW

Join the Nature Consortium/MLK Day of Service on January 16, 2017

Nature Consortium is collaborating with United Way of King County by hosting an MLK Day of Service event [on January 16th 2017](#). Nature Consortium is looking for volunteers to help continue the effort in restoring the West Duwamish Greenbelt forest. This is the largest urban forest in Seattle and by taking part in restoring this important green space volunteers are helping improve water quality and preserve and enhance our city's native habitat.

On this day there will be thousands of volunteers working on hundreds of projects around King County. Nature Consortium invites the students from Louisa Boren STEM K-8 work alongside volunteers in planting native species at Pigeon Point Park. By lending a hand, you'll help spread Dr. Martin Luther King Jr.'s legacy of compassion and service to the whole community. Join us in the West Duwamish Greenbelt!

Activities will begin at 10 AM and conclude at 2 PM. Music, refreshments, tools, and instructions will be provided. All ages and abilities are welcomed as no experience is necessary; families, company groups, clubs, individuals, schools, are encouraged to participate. Interested? Reach out to Caroline Borsenik with the Nature Consortium at caroline@naturec.org or 206.923.0853 Ext 100 about your interest in participating in MLK Day of Service on January 16th at Pigeon Point Park.

