



September 26, 2016



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

Upcoming Events

September 28
2:05 PM
2-hour early dismissal

September 29
6:30-8:00 PM
Curriculum Night and Open House
STEM K-8

September 29
Fall Enrichment Registration Closes
Enroll elementary and middle school students in before and after school classes today.
[Register Online](#)

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 this week.
STEM K-8

October 14
No School

October 26
2:05
2-hour early dismissal

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Blink and it's October! Much is happening at STEM K-8 this week. On **Wednesday, 9/28 school gets out at 2:05 pm** for our first professional development early release. STEM staff will be working together to develop common understandings of Project Based Learning, use Office 365 as a collaboration tool, and create writing expectations. On **Thursday, 9/29 from 6:30-8:00 we will host Curriculum Night** for families to meet teachers and learn about class curriculum and expectations.

All families will gather in the cafeteria at 6:30, and then two identical classroom presentations will happen from 6:55-7:25 pm and 7:30-8:00 pm for families with more than one child.

A FEW IMPORTANT REMINDERS

PICK-UP AND DROP OFF GUIDELINES

- 1) STEM K-8 doesn't provide supervision in the morning until 9:15, so please don't drop off students before then.
- 2) If you park and pick up your child after school, please don't claim them until after their class is on the playground lined up, and make sure the teacher knows you have them. This helps us account for every child's departure.
- 3) Please communicate any changes in pick-up routine to the office before 2:00 pm.

BACK TO SCHOOL PACKETS are available on the [Seattle Public Schools website](#). You can also pick up hard copies at the school office, or ask your child to bring a packet home.

FREE OR REDUCED PRICE LUNCH APPLICATIONS DUE OCTOBER 1. If your child might be eligible for free or reduced price lunch, please submit an application by October 1. This is important for several reasons, including school and district funding. Completed applications can be submitted to our school office, the STEM lunchroom, or mailed to Nutrition Services. [Families can also now apply online on the Nutrition Services webpage.](#)

HIGHLY CAPABLE REFERRALS DUE OCTOBER 6. The window for referring students for Advanced Learning testing closes October 6. Referrals in English are done online at [the Source](#), the parent portal for individual student information. Translated forms are available on the [district website](#).

K AND GRADE 1 AUTHOR VISIT. Author Lynn Brunelle will be visiting with STEM K-8 Kindergarteners and First Graders on Thursday, 9/29. If you are interested in ordering a copy of her book *Big Science for Little People*. [Download the order form](#) and return to Mary Bannister in the library asap.

Ben Ostrom
Louisa Boren K-8 STEM 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](#)

Join us for “Screenagers. Growing up in the Digital Age” Free screening sponsored by STEM K-8 PTA Oct. 5 at 6:30 PM

This year in addition to six PTA general meetings, every other month the PTA will sponsor evening community events and enrichment opportunities. Our first event is a free showing of “Screenagers, Growing up in the Digital Age”. This movie probes into the vulnerable corners of family life, and depicts messy struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. Through surprising insights from authors and brain scientists solutions emerge on how we can empower kids to best navigate the digital world.

Join us in the STEM K-8 Lunch room to watch the movie and for a community discussion moderated by STEM school counselor, Meredith Osborne. Children 10 and over are welcomed to attend with an adult family member. The PTA will also provide childcare for children ages 5-9.



"Screenagers is a very balanced, sympathetic and sane look at the way millions of teens are struggling with phones and games and technology in general. In part by letting the teens themselves speak about their own concerns and solutions. Screenagers is deeply affecting, too." — Dave Eggers, Author

School Picture Day is Wednesday, October 5th!

Schedule your haircuts, lay out your best school uniform, student picture day is next Wednesday, October 5th. Parents, look for order forms from Yuen Lui in your student's backpack this week. Online ordering will also be available. Please remember, this is a standard school uniform day.

Fall Enrichment Program Registration Closes This Week

While many popular K-5 classes are full, we still have many openings in the Middle School enrichment classes including Drumming, Choir and Watercolor. Registration will close soon, please enroll by Wednesday, 9/29 at noon if your student is interested in getting involved.

Drumming (grades 6-8) [register here](#)

Have fun learning rhythm and playing the drum! Designed by a music industry professional, this class utilizes innovative tools and techniques, including exclusive iPad-linked drum sets, to teach kids to rock! Students will learn fundamentals of rhythm and time keeping, technique, rudiments, beats and much, much more! 5th Graders may audition for this class. (continued on page 3)

Get Involved!

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

Volunteers Needed This Week

[Direct Give Fundraising Committee](#)

[Room Parents Still Needed!](#)

Dates: Oct. 6, 13, 20, 27 and Nov. 3, 10, 17 and Dec. 1, 8
Time: Thursdays, 8:15 – 9:15 am
Location: PTA room in the Cafeteria
Price: \$130/ 9 classes

Choir (grades 6–8) [register here](#)

Come sing and dance to selected popular music with Ms. Nelson and your fellow owls on Thursday mornings. Strengthen your voice, get your body moving, and have a blast during this morning choral club. Fifth graders may audition to join the class.

Dates: Oct. 4, 6, 11, 13, 18, 20, 25, 27 and Nov. 3, 8, 10, 15, 17, 29 and Dec. 1, 6, 8
Time: Tuesdays and Thursdays, 8:15 – 9:15 am
Location: Ms. Nelson's room
Price: \$20/ 17 classes

Watercolor Painting (grades 6-8) [register here](#)

Join High 5 Arts and explore color and learn about basic color theories. Before each painting session, students will learn the basics of how to draw through the 5 basic shapes. Students will be able to push their limits with projects that are for beginners and advanced artists. More information at www.high5arts.com

Dates: Oct. 7, 21, 28 and Nov. 4, 18 and Dec. 2, 9
Time: Fridays, 8:15 – 9:15 am
Location: Portable #2
Price: \$105/ 7 classes

Registration is still open for many K-5 classes as well. See full program details and registration on the PTA website under [Activities](#).

Enrichment classes need parent volunteers, get 50% off enrollment fees!

The following classes need Parent Volunteer/Chaperones. Tuition is 50%!
Classes run from 8:15-9:15am, and 4:15-5:30pm.

Chess	Friday Watercolor
Amelia Aero	Drumming
Piano/Keyboard	Trendy Crafts
Fashion Illustration	Life Skills
Martial Arts	Girls Rock Math

Contact Cassandra O'Neal at Afterschool@stemk8pta.org with questions.

Join the K-8 STEM 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