Upcoming Events

March 7
Islandwood Orientation
5:30pm – 6:30pm
STEM Library

March 8
Global Reading Challenge Semi-Finals
10:30am
SPL – Central Library
1000 4th Ave.

March 14
Pi Night!
6:00pm – 8:00pm
Pi-zza, Pi Walk, and more!
Organized by 1st Grade families
and supported by Middle School
Student Council.
STEM K-8 Cafeteria

Be Smart – A Conversation on Preventing Gun Violence
7:00pm
Adults only. Complimentary childcare provided by the PTA.
STEM K-8 Library

March 20
Dine Out for STEM K-8 & Concord Elementary
5:00pm – 8:00pm
Li’l Woody’s/CTO/Beer Star
9807 16th Ave SW

March 21
PTA Meeting
6:30pm – 8:00pm
Complimentary childcare provided by the PTA.
STEM Library

March 30
Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

The sun was shining on Saturday after a glorious evening at the STEM Auction! A huge thank you to all the volunteers whose contributions turned back the clock for an 80’s Prom on Friday night! It was an energizing celebration of STEM community that provides vital support for the programs that bring our vision to life. Special thanks to Robin Graham for her auction leadership and all the other volunteers who helped secure donations, produce class art projects, and organize an astounding event. Your work makes a difference! Figures are still crunching, and expenses have to be paid, but the live auction and paddle raise alone raised almost $55,000. That number will keep rising. Thanks families for supporting our STEM Vision!

STEM K-8 just received our preliminary budget allocation for the 2018-19 school year. Some families are aware of SPS’s recent practice of enrolling Option school classrooms to contract maximums. This has led to concerns regarding the additional stresses and demands placed on Option school classrooms, especially in the primary grades. At the same time, SPS is providing additional staffing to match lower class size ratios—similar to other elementary schools. Thus STEM K-8 also received additional staff. We will be making complex decisions as we evaluate student needs and adding more classrooms. Our initial budget allocation includes enough teachers to meaningfully reduce class size at more than one grade level, which should allay some of the concern. The Leadership Team will be discussing 2018-19 budget and staffing on Monday afternoon and staff will have a short turn around to make decisions on Wednesday, March 7. We are also including parent BLT members and PTA representatives in the conversation.

Another great way to get involved in school is to join a hiring committee. Choosing new teachers are some of the most important decisions we make. This year’s SPS multi-phase hiring process will be happening earlier—STEM K-8 will be operating hiring committees at the end of March/beginning of April. Read the Owl Post for timelines. To participate on a Seattle school hiring committee you have to complete one hiring committee training (it’s good for life). The next one is Tuesday, March 20, from 4-5 pm at the John Stanford Center. Sign up by emailing date attending, full name, email address and contact phone number to SEA@WashingtonEA.org.

Ben Ostrom
Principal
Louisa Boren STEM K-8

Class Size Concerns - Thanks to all who have taken the time to write the school board and district over Class Size concerns. On February 28, our school received its staffing allocations for 2018/19 and they were slightly higher than anticipated. The PTA is placing a hold on our Equal Class Size Campaign while our building staff decide how this allocation will impact our class sizes next year.

Shawna Murphy – Advocacy Committee Chairperson
April 2 - 5
5th Grade Islandwood Field Trip
https://islandwood.org/
Bainbridge Island

April 9 - 13
Spring Break
No School

Check out the school calendar here.

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**Auction Update from Robin Graham**

You will be hearing a lot of auction updates over the next two weeks!

This COULD NOT have happened without the volunteers - weeks up to and day of. Thank you.

*Circa* donated $175 from the After Party! and I bet you kinda want a number. BUT - I need to do A LOT of math and budget reconciliation and things are still moving (like "Hey! I want to do a popsicle party. Can you sell another one?" and "$45 is owed to an art volunteer" and tickets, an online auction is going to go up, and *Circa* just is like "hey! Here is some money and fries!"....) but FIRM NUMBERS - **$21,775.00 LIVE AUCTION** and **$32,980.00 on PADDLE RAISE.** THANK YOU.

WHAT?! YOU WANT TO DONATE TO THE PADDLE RAISE TOO?!?
https://louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net/80s/give

Raise the Paddle ask - Take it Away Kids! Thank you Helen Walker Green for the *amazing* video.

https://vimeo.com/258002202 Password is: Thatcher

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**Attn: 5th Grade Parents – Islandwood Orientation**

Islandwood staff will present an informational session for parents and will be available to answer questions.

Wednesday, March 7
5:30 pm - 6:30 pm
STEM Library

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We want your grocery bags for the weekend back pack program!
Please drop handled paper bags and/or reusable grocery bags in the office!
Thank you!
-Ashlee
Night

Wednesday, March 14th, 2018
6-8 p.m.
Boren K-8 STEM Cafeteria

Pizza!!!
Pi-tivities!
Pie Walk!!!

We will have two rounds of pizza
Volunteers will be available to entertain children if you would like to attend the Moms Demand Action presentation at 7 p.m. in the library
School Board Resolution

On February 28 the school board approved a resolution urging lawmakers to increase student safety by enacting legislation that helps prevent gun violence in schools and declares opposition to efforts to arm educators.

You can read the resolution HERE on the SPS website, or scroll to the end of the Owl Post where we have included it in its entirety.

Join us for a Conversation on Preventing Gun Violence

On Wednesday, March 14 at 7:00 pm Be Smart for Kids will present an adults-only conversation at STEM K-8 about gun violence prevention and keeping kids safe. This presentation will be part of our Pi Night activities. Childcare will be provided.

IT'S UP TO ALL OF US TO PROTECT KIDS

JOIN US FOR A CONVERSATION ABOUT GUN VIOLENCE PREVENTION AND KEEPING KIDS SAFE

Location: Louisa Boren STEM K-8
Date: Wednesday March 14th 2018
Time: 7PM
Enrichment survey

We invite you to complete the following survey about your satisfaction with the STEM K-8 enrichment program. This survey can be taken even if you don't have a student who is taking enrichment classes, and we encourage you to do so. The survey should take less than 5 minutes to complete, and we very much appreciate you helping us improve the STEM K-8 enrichment program for the 2018-2019 school year.

Link: https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/VC3HNR2

Join the Advocacy Committee

Would you like to join the PTA's Advocacy Committee as we gear up for a busy spring? Come to our next meeting, Tuesday March 27 from 7-8 pm at Uptown Espresso & Game Emporium on Delridge. We need your help planning race & equity family workshops and our 2nd annual GGLOW OWLS Family Dance Party to kick off Pride Month in June. Our committee has open membership and all are welcome. Contact Shawna southernstreetkids@yahoo.com for more info.

Nurses Wanted!

Seattle Public Schools Health Services is hiring nurses! Part time and full-time positions are available. School nurses enjoy a family friendly schedule with 180-day school calendar work year. Seattle school nurses serve 54,000 students representing every ethnic, racial and socioeconomic background and 120 languages. The focus of school nursing is to increase the number of students who are ready to learn, to support teachers in creating environments which sustain the learning readiness of students, and to assist all students in maximizing their personal levels of physical, social, and emotional wellness. The opportunity to direct nursing interventions to prevention focused activities contributes to the school nurse’s autonomy and high sense of job satisfaction.

More information, a job description and minimum qualifications can be found at: https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/seattleschools/jobs/1608297/school-nurse-various-fte-student-health-services?keywords=nurse&pagetype=jobOpportunitiesJobs

For questions regarding this job posting, please call Marie DeBell @ 206-252-0079 or Hilary Stephens @ 206-252-0753
Middle School Basketball Schedule

Saturday, March 10

**K-8 Varsity Boys**
Salmon Bay vs STEM
2:00pm Ingraham HS

**K-8 Varsity Girls**
Salmon Bay vs STEM
2:00pm Ingraham HS

**K-8 Junior Varsity Boys**
STEM #2 vs Whitman #2
8:30am Jane Addams MS (N)

South Shore vs STEM
12:15pm Franklin HS (N)
Seattle School District #1
Board Resolution

Resolution No. 2017/18-17

A RESOLUTION of the Board of Directors of Seattle School District No. 1, King County, Seattle, Washington to declare support for sensible gun safety legislation, declare opposition to efforts to arm educators in our schools, and declare support of the March for Our Lives on March 24, 2018.

WHEREAS, Seattle School Board Policy No. 0010, Instructional Philosophy, affirms that “It is the moral imperative of the School Board and the Superintendent to ensure that all students receive an education” that includes the commitment to “Schools that provide a safe, secure, and supportive environment” and to social-emotional learning; and

WHEREAS, gun violence presents a clear and present danger to the students, parents, educators, paraeducators, administrators, and support staff of the Seattle School District; and

WHEREAS, Washington state law (RCW 28A.600.420 and RCW 9.41.280) and Seattle School Board policies (3248 and 4210) already prohibit weapons and firearms on school properties; and

WHEREAS, since 2013, there have been 291 shootings on elementary, middle, and high school and college campuses in the United States which averages to about one per week,¹ and 168 of those shootings were at K-12 schools;² and

WHEREAS, in the past five years, eight school shootings have occurred in Washington state, four of which resulted in injury or death,³ and facilities in the Seattle School District, and districts around Washington State, have far too often been the scenes of gun violence and threats of gun violence; and

WHEREAS, in Washington, an 18-year-old can buy a military style assault weapon with no background check or waiting period;⁴ and

WHEREAS, gun violence, and threats of gun violence, in schools undermine the sense of security that all students should have in their learning environments; and

WHEREAS, more guns results in more homicides;⁵ children of color are victims of homicide by firearms at a higher rate than white children in King County,⁶ and our nation is now aware that

² Everytown for Gun Safety; Keep Guns Out of Elementary, Middle, and High Schools; February 2018; https://everytownresearch.org/guns-in-elementary-middle-and-high-schools.
³ Everytown for Gun Safety; 291 School Shootings in America since 2013; https://everytownresearch.org/school-shootings/#2919
⁴ https://www.seattletimes.com/opinion/washington-lawmakers-should-take-vote-on-assault-weapons-limits/
persons of color are more likely to be wrongfully shot by persons in positions of power, leads to
the conclusion that arming educators could have a disproportionately adverse and lethal impact
on students of color;⁶ and

WHEREAS, students have seized the conscience of the nation with their demand for strong
action to reduce preventable gun violence and on March 24, 2018, a National March for Our
Lives will be held by student leaders seeking to deliver an unmistakable message that now is the
time to pass commonsense gun safety laws; and

WHEREAS, sensible gun safety legislation will strengthen protections for our schools and
students by preventing dangerous individuals from attaining firearms; and

WHEREAS, it is the belief of the Board of Directors that Seattle and Washington State must be
national leaders in innovative and meaningful policy to confront gun violence;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT

RESOLVED, that the Seattle School Board supports sensible gun safety legislation to protect
students and staff, such as:
☐ raising the age to purchase assault weapons to 21,
☐ implementing Enhanced Background Checks for Assault Weapons,
☐ banning the purchase and sale of “assault” or semi-automatic rifles and of any
accessories designed to increase a gun’s rate of fire,
☐ establishing safety programs in schools that do NOT include arming educators or staff,
☐ eliminating private gun sale loopholes,
☐ providing funding for thorough gun violence research, including removing the prohibition
on research and data collection by the U.S. Center for Disease Control (CDC);
☐ supporting prevention, intervention and community re-entry programs that reduce
community and gun violence; and
☐ increased funding for programs and school staffing (i.e. counselors, nurses, and
psychologists) that support student mental health, social and emotional learning, and anti-
bullying; and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Seattle School District supports legislation
currently under consideration by the Washington State Legislature that would enact some of
the above measures, including Engrossed Senate Bill 5992, Senate Bill 6620 and House Bill 3004;
and therefore be it further

RESOLVED, that the Board of Directors of the Seattle School District wholly rejects the
misguided suggestion, advanced by President Donald J. Trump, the National Rifle Association
(NRA) and some members of the Washington State Legislature, that it is either desirable or

⁶ According to a November 25, 2013 report from Public Health – Seattle & King County, available at
appropriate to arm teachers in schools for any purpose, and will maintain existing prohibition of firearms at school and will NOT support any effort to arm educators and staff; and therefore be it further

**RESOLVED,** that the Board of Directors of the Seattle School District wholly endorses and will participate in the student led March for Our Lives on March 24, 2018.

ADOPTED this 28th day of February, 2018

_____________________________  ______________________________
Director Leslie Harris, President                      Director Rick Burke, Vice President

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Director Jill Geary, Member-at-Large                     Director Zachary DeWolf

_____________________________  ______________________________
Director Eden Mack                                       Director Betty Patu

_____________________________  ______________________________
Director Scott Pinkham                                  ATTEST: ____________________________

Dr. Larry Nyland, Superintendent          
Secretary, Board of Directors          
Seattle School District No. 1            
King County, WA