A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Welcome back! Hope you all had some time to breathe and also think about things for which to be grateful for even in the midst of crazy times. A few things for which I am thankful: My family nurtures my humanity, my work is creative and meaningful; and my colleagues at STEM embrace teaching as a creative activism to craft a more equitable, sustainable future. I am consistently grateful for the willingness of STEM families to invest and partner with us to support meaningful learning for all of our students. It’s inspiring!

If there were scheduling conflicts that got in the way of a teacher conference, please reschedule. We want to connect with every family.

You are all invited to join us this Wednesday, November 28 from 5:30pm to 7:30pm for Multicultural Night sponsored by the STEM Equity Team. We will have food, live entertainment, cultural games, activities, a world market, and student performances. Bring a dish to share – as this will be a potluck style evening, and an artifact to share. If you are interested in hosting/teaching an activity related to your family’s culture, contact Anisha Noriega at: aknoriega@seattleschools.org.

Today is the start of our week-long All for Books campaign. We’re raising money so teachers can build classroom libraries during our Book Fair Blizzard (December 4, 5 & 6). The money we raise also helps readers beyond our school. Every year, Scholastic matches the All for Books money raised nationwide with a donation of up to one million books to the Kids in Need Foundation and Kids in Distressed Situations, Inc. Students can contribute by scooping up spare change and bringing it to school to donate at the school entrance between 8:20am and 8:50am according to the schedule below:

- Monday November 26 – Penny Day
- Tuesday November 27 – Nickel Day
- Wednesday November 28 – Dime Day
- Thursday November 29 – Quarter Day
- Friday November 30 – Dollar Day (coins or bills)

(Of course, spare change will be accepted on any of the above days!)

Ben Ostrom
Principal
Louisa Boren STEM K-8

The STEM K-8 Giving Tree

In support of our student community that needs extra support during the holiday season (for groceries or gifts) we are collecting gift cards "in any amount to any place". This allows our families to decide how they can best support their family’s personal needs, so cards for groceries, toys, clothing - anything is appreciated. Please mark the amount on the card and leave it unwrapped. Bring it to the school office (attn.: Danielle Blechert) by 12/14.

Anything STEM families donate will be shared with our friends at our local title one community school Sanislo Elementary, located just up the hill from STEM. So if we bring in $500 in gift cards we will give $250 to families at Sanislo. Many families at both schools need support, so please share this message outside of the STEM community. Gift cards can be mailed to: 5950 Delridge Way SW, Seattle, WA 98106.
Multi Cultural Potluck Night

WHERE
Stem Cafeteria and Gym

WHEN
Nov 28th
5:30 - 7:30

Regardless of our Skin Color or the language We Speak
Or the place we were born We are all
Brothers and Sisters - Danna Martinez L.
December 5
Book Fair Blizzard
8:00am-10:00am
2:10pm-7:00pm
STEM K-8 Hallway to Cafeteria

December 6
Book Fair Blizzard
8:00am-10:00am
STEM K-8 Hallway to Cafeteria

December 12
Auction Committee Meeting
7:00pm-9:00pm
Uptown Espresso Delridge

December 13
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
All welcome! Complimentary
YMCA childcare provided by the
PTA.
STEM K-8 Library

December 20
Winter Solstice Music Festival
6:00pm
A wonderful night of musical
performances by the STEM K-8
Band and Choir.
Performers arrive no later than
5:45pm.
STEM K-8 Cafeteria

December 21
Last Day of School
1-Hour Early Release

December 22-January 6
Winter Break No School

Check out the school calendar
here.

Artist Visit - Book Orders Due Wednesday!

THIRD PLACE BOOKS

MEET ARTIST KYLE BOLTON!
FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 30th, 2018
Pre-order a signed book from Third Place Books to have it delivered at
the event!

The following teachers have signed up to take their classes to the
event: (Colby, Williamson, Massimino, Graves). If your child is in one of
these classes you can pre-order books and pick them up at the event.
CLICK HERE to print out the order form. Each book is $13.19.
Payment is by check payable to Third Place Books, or exact change.

Please return order forms and exact payment to Mrs. B in the
STEM Library by: Wednesday, November 28th 9am!

Book Fair Gift Certificate Winners

Congratulations to students who returned
their STEM K-8 Summer Reading Bingo
Forms to Mrs. B!

Isabella Loh, Jame Ko, Oscar Gorski,
and Stella Gorski each earned a $10 gift
certificate to the Scholastic Book Fair.

Lucy Self and Trixie Every each earned a $5 gift
certificate to the Scholastic Book Fair.

Mrs B. will give them the gift certificates on Monday,
December 3.
Two Book Fairs in One!

Ever wondered why our annual Book Fair Blizzard has SO MANY BOOKS? It’s because it’s actually two book fairs – an Elementary Fair (including PreK) and a Middle School Fair. While Scholastic has a book fair option for K-8 schools, it doesn’t give middle-schoolers much choice in books – so we bring in a middle school book fair too!

*It's a blizzard of books for everyone!*

Tuesday, December 4\textsuperscript{th}
3:25pm to 8:30pm

Wednesday, December 5th
8:00am to 10:00am & 2:10pm to 7:00pm

Thursday, December 6th
8:00am to 10:00am

Visit our online Book Fair
http://www.scholastic.com/bf/stemk8
Open Nov. 26th through Dec. 9th)

Here you'll find an even bigger selection of books pre-school through adult. You can also send wish-lists and e-cards to family and friends.

Book Fairs App makes finding the right book a snap!
Sing Out Seattle Enrichment Program Presents:

When: Tuesday, December 4. 7:00pm.
Where: STEM K-8 Cafeteria

Enjoy a fun family night out on Tuesday, December 4. Browse the Book Fair Blizzard, grab a treat or two from the Bake Sale, then sit down to enjoy STEM students’ performance of Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory.

Bake Sale

When: Tuesday, December 4. 6:30pm-8:30pm
Where: STEM K-8 Hallway to Cafeteria

Bake Sale Volunteers Needed (especially 5th Grade)

5th grade families - please consider helping support 5th grade students and chaperones with Islandwood funding! Bring an item to the PTA office day before (Dec 3) / day of (Dec 4) or to the Bake Sale night of Dec 4. Then stay to help sell goodies to families visiting the Book Fair and watching the enrichment program’s amazing performance of Willy Wonka & the Chocolate Factory! SIGN UP HERE

Winter Solstice Music Festival

When: Thursday, December 20. 6:00pm
Where: STEM Cafeteria

We are looking forward to a wonderful night of musical performances by STEM band and choir students.

Performers should arrive no later than 5:45pm. For those students who will not have transportation back to school at that time, there will be supervision here at STEM so that they can stay at school instead of “dashing” home and “dashing” back to school.

Middle School Band Students: This is a REQUIRED performance. I use this performance as a summative assessment in the grading process. My expectation is that all 85 middle school band students will be performing and wearing concert “dress”. I describe this as “dressing up” compared to normal school attire, but at the very least, a black or white top with a collar, with black or white skirts/pants etc. Please, no colors, patterns, or stripes. If students don’t have concert dress at home, they or their parent/guardian can contact Jody Hapgood in the school office, jahapgood@seattleschools.org, for access to the PTA’s Uniform Closet. If, for some urgent reason (I do not consider a recurring practice or lesson an urgent reason; this band performance is part of their class requirements!), your student is absolutely unable to attend, I will arrange for an alternative assessment. Usually that means that they are required to perform in front of an audience (i.e. peers) once we return from the winter holidays. Most students find this to be a much less attractive option than playing in the ensemble on the night of the concert. If your student will require an alternative assessment, please let me know ASAP, but no later than December 6.

Dr. Matt Okun
Boren STEM K-8
Instrumental Music
MTSS Interventionist
206-252-8462
mkokun@seattleschools.org
Gender Universe

Thanks to all who were able to make it to our workshop on November 15. Gender Universe was led by STEM K-8 parents Jen Self and Autumn Kinsman, with Gatewood parent Jordan Thomas. Autumn and Jordan are the cofounders of Gender Family Alliance https://www.facebook.com/genderfamilyalliance/, which supports parents and caregivers of trans and gender expansive youth. Our community came together to learn and share with terrific questions for our presenters.
Counselor’s Corner by Danielle Blechert

Our K-5 classes are in the middle of learning about Kelso's Choice Wheel (a conflict resolution tool) during classroom counseling lessons. Our goal is that students use the wheel to solve small problems. They should be trying two of Kelso's choices before going to an adult for help solving a conflict.

Our PBIS (Positive Behavior Interventions & Supports) Team is working on a middle school store. It will most likely start in the New Year. Students will earn ~money~ for positive behavior, which they can then use to purchase items in the store. We are in need of donations for the school store! Here are some items we'd like: snacks, fancy mechanical pencils, erasers, books, games & puzzles, art supplies, sports balls, headphones, planners/calendars. Some of these items are available at the Book Fair (Dec. 4-6), so if you are able to buy a few extras for our store, that would be great!

Danielle Blechert
pronouns: (she, her, hers)
School Counselor
Louisa Boren STEM K-8
206-252-8509
dblechert@seattleschools.org
West Seattle High School

Parents Night Out

Babysitting service put on by the Sophomore Class ASB

Date: Saturday, December 8th

Time: 6pm- 10pm

Pricing: kids ages 3 (potty trained)- 11 year olds

- $25 per kid if you bring two canned goods for WS food bank
- $30 without canned food
- Price includes pizza, movie, games, and crafts

Tell your friends
And
Reserve your spot today!

Email: wshsco2021@gmail.com

Check in at the WSHS foyer-lunchroom
3000 California Ave, SW, Seattle WA, 98116
-Sitters are CPR trained

Thank you for your support!
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**

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**West Seattle High School Prospective Student Night**

**When:** Thursday, November 29. 6:30pm-8:00pm.

**Where:** West Seattle High School. 3000 California Ave SW Seattle, WA 98116

6:30-7:00pm: **Theater:** Learn about course offerings at WSHS and hear from current West Seattle students.

7:00-8:00pm: **Student-led tours of the building.**

7:00-8:00pm: **Commons:** Department Fair - meet department heads, review texts and course offerings, Q&A.

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**THE "SEATTLE" STEM AUCTION**

Committee Meetings
7-9pm Uptown Delridge
Dec 12, Jan 9, Jan 31, Feb 27, March 13, March 20
March 23, 2018 - Details Soon
robin: auction@stemk8pta.org

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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