January 22
Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

January 23
Martin Luther King Assembly
8:55am
STEM K-8 Gym

January 24
Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

Winter PBL Open House
6:30pm – 8:00pm
STEM K-8

January 25
Spirit Wear Day

Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

January 29
Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

Middle School Tour
10:15am – 11:45am
STEM K-8

January 30
Day Between Semesters
No School

January 31
Middle School Open House
6:00pm – 7:00pm
For prospective families.
STEM K-8

Auction Committee Meeting
7:00pm – 8:00pm
All welcome!
Uptown Espresso Delridge

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

STEM K-8 is offering up another full week of activities. We are hosting school tours starting today for the next three weeks. Tours are open to any families of children interested in learning about our program Kindergarten through 8th Grade. We offer separate elementary and middle school tours—more details can be found at stemk8pta.org. Encourage families looking for a school to visit!

I saw several STEM families at the Seattle MLK march on Monday. STEM will be holding a MLK Assembly at the beginning of the school day on Wednesday.

Our PBL Open House is on Thursday evening:
6:30-7:30pm Grades K-3rd classrooms.
7:00-8:00pm Grades 4th-8th classrooms.

We are using overlapping time slots for K-3rd and 4th-8th classrooms to allow staff to observe Project Based Learning work in other grades, and also to visit their children’s classes. Families are encouraged to visit classrooms at all grade levels, and to please keep their children with them when they aren’t involved in classroom presentations. Staff will be focused on sharing with families rather than student supervision.

STEM K-8 scheduled an important safety drill for Friday afternoon at 1:00 pm. We will practice Shelter in Place and Lockdown procedures. These two different safety procedures are often confused, so we will review them both. Staff will make clear that it’s a drill, and that we practice to make sure everyone is ok in the rare event of an actual emergency.

As issues of school violence have become sources of anxiety, many families have asked for notification about school precautions and drills. General descriptions of Shelter in Place and Lockdown procedures are below.

Shelter in Place:
Purpose: Keeping students and staff safe from a concern in the outside community.
Looks like: All exterior doors locked and entrance/exit into the building is monitored. Within the building we make sure all students are accounted for and keep to a normal schedule as much as possible. We reassure students that this is a safety precaution and there is no immediate danger. If students are going to and from PCP or instrumental music, they travel through the interior hallways and gym, not the outside doors or breezeway. Recesses are indoors.

Lockdown:
Purpose: Protect students and staff from external or internal dangers in immediate vicinity.
Looks like: All students and adults go to the nearest room. Lock doors, close windows, pull blinds/drapes. Students and staff sit against whichever wall provides the most protection, sit as low as possible, and remain quiet. Precautions continue until individual classroom notification by staff or security.

Ben Ostrom
Principal
Louisa Boren STEM K-8
February 1
Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

Middle School Tour
10:15am – 11:45am
STEM K-8

Global Reading Challenge
Author Visit – Hena Kahn
1:00pm
STEM K-8 Library

February 4-8
Black Lives Matter at
School Week
STEM K-8

February 7
Elementary School Tour
9:00am – 10:30am
STEM K-8

Elementary Open House
6:00pm – 7:00pm
For prospective families.
STEM K-8

PTA Meeting
6:30pm – 8:00pm
All welcome
Complimentary YMCA
childcare provided by the
PTA.
STEM Library

February 8
Hella Black Books’
Joy Sparks Visits
Joy will be selling books
featuring people of color.
8:15am – 9:15am
3:15pm-4:15pm
STEM K-8

February 11
African American Parent
Involvement Day
More details to come soon.
STEM K-8

Check out the school
calendar here.

Counsellor’s Corner

Hi STEM Community,

If your family or someone in your community is experiencing financial
hardship, food insecurity or just needs some extra support due to the
government shut down, please don't hesitate to reach out to me or
contact the West Seattle Helpline for resources. Their number is (206)
932-4357. For additional resources around Seattle CLICK HERE.

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

Auction Tickets for Sale NOW!

Saturday, March 23
5:30pm – 11:30pm
The Hall at Fauntleroy

CLICK HERE TO BUY!

All information CLICK HERE

Want to make a dessert for the Dessert Dash?
auction@stemk8pta.org

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Check out the school
calendar here.
Spirit Wear Shop is Live!

STEM will celebrate Black Lives Matter at School Week from February 4-8. Custom STEM Black Lives Matter t-shirts and hoodies are available for purchase. We have two fantastic designs to choose from.

Go to cafepress.com/stemspiritwear to order yours in time to wear it for Black Lives Matter at School Week!

Back of t-shirt features the values the Black Lives Matter movement stands for:

- **Restorative Justice** is the commitment to build a beloved and loving community that is sustainable and growing.
- **Empathy** is one’s ability to connect with others by building relationships built on mutual trust and understanding.
- **Loving Engagement** is the commitment to practice justice, liberation and peace.
- **Diversity** is the celebration and acknowledgment of differences and commonalities across cultures.
- **Globalism** is our ability to see how we are impacted or privileged within the Black global family that exists across the world in different regions.
- **Transgender Affirming** is the commitment to continue to make space for our trans brothers and sisters by encouraging leadership and recognizing trans-antagonistic violence.
- **Queer Affirming** is working towards a queer-affirming network where heteronormative thinking no longer exists.
- **Collective Value** means that all Black lives, regardless of actual or perceived sexual identity, gender identity, gender expression, economic status, ability, disability, religious beliefs or disbeliefs, immigration status or location matter.
- **Intergenerational** is a space free from ageism where we can learn from each other.
- **Black Families** creates a space that is family friendly and free from patriarchal practices.

Joy Sparks of Hella Black Books to Visit STEM

We are also honored to host Joy Sparks, founder of Hella Black Books. She'll be at school on February 8 from 8:15am-9:15am and again from 3:15pm-4:15pm to sell books featuring people of color.

After seeing her daughters struggle academically it reminded her of her own learning challenges in school. She began to understand the importance of reading, comprehension and personally connecting with the reading material. Initially her focus was to attract her children to literacy, art and culture but after about a year hunting for used books specifically with black and brown characters it had soon became her hobby and passion. You can follow Hella Black Books on Facebook and Instagram, and you can email Joy Sparks at hellablackbooks@gmail.com if you can't make it that day and want to buy books.
Global Reading Challenge Author Visit - February 1

We are so fortunate to host Global Reading Challenge author Hena Khan at STEM Library on Friday, February 1. Third Place Books is very generous to provide us this opportunity. We can offer the four titles for sale at STEM (see order form on next page), but I also encourage families to look at her entire list of books available.

https://www.henakhan.com/new-gallery/


Also please mark your calendars for STEM's In-School Global Reading Challenge on Friday, February 15 at 9:15 am in the cafeteria.

Mary Bannister
STEM K-8 Librarian
mebannister@seattleschools.org

*Print the order form page directly from this Owl Post or download it here.*
MEET AUTHOR HENA KHAN AT LOUISA BOREN!
FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 1st, 2019

Pre-order a book from Third Place Books to have it delivered & signed at the event!

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GRAND TOTAL

Please provide CHECK (payable to Third Place Books) or EXACT CHANGE only to Mrs. B. in the STEM Library with the order form by Tuesday, January 29th.

Student Name: __________________________________________________________

Teacher: _______________________________________________________________

Sign this book to: _______________________________________________________

Please return order forms and payment to school by: Tuesday, January 29th

Third Place Books
Lake Forest Park – Ravenna – Seward Park
http://www.thirdplacebooks.com
Upcoming High School Tours/Open Houses

**THE CENTER SCHOOL**
February 13, Wednesday, 6:30pm – 8:30pm
Free parking passes located outside Ms. Danielle’s office in High School folder.

**CLEVELAND STEM**
February 2, Saturday, 9:00am – 11:30am
February 7, Thursday, 9:00am – 11:30am
RSVP HERE

**NOVA**
Intro Meetings for 8th Graders
January 29, Saturday, 8:45am – 11:45am
Call Karen to register at (206) 252-3500
Tour the school, round table discussion with students about what it's like to be a Nova student, choose a class to observe. Meet with Mark, Nova's Principal, to learn more about Nova.

Family Tour (no need to register)
January 22, Tuesday, 12:30pm – 1:30pm

Open House (no need to register)
January 24, Tuesday, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

**The Nova Project – an alternative public high school in the heart of Seattle**

A note from Nova’s Principal:

Nova High School is an innovator in non-traditional education. We are a competency, inquiry and project-based school that uses performance and portfolio assessment to gauge the level and depth of student work.

As a social and racial justice school, we believe personalization in education is key to building trust and academic success in preparing all students for college and the workforce after high school.

If you have any questions, please give us a call at (206)-252-3500

Mark Perry, PhD

**SPS SCHOOL CHOICE DATES**
February 4: Open Enrollment Begins.  February 15: Open Enrollment Ends

**LOTTERY FOR RAISBECK AVIATION HIGH SCHOOL**
The application window for the 2019-20 school year is January 1-31. If there are more applications than space at any particular grade level, Highline Public Schools will hold a lottery including all students with completed applications (the lottery will take place on March 1. Families will be notified immediately. Full results will be posted in March). Students not accepted in the lottery will be placed on a waitlist in the order they are chosen from the pool of remaining students.

*No open house/tour information available for Chief Stealth High School at this time.*
Volunteers needed to lead school tours! Email tours@stemk8pta.org. It’s a chance to show off your school!

Know any families interested in joining the STEM K-8 community? We are hosting school tours and open houses in January and February. These tours are open to any families of children entering kindergarten through 8th grade. We host separate elementary and middle school tours to address the specific questions and concerns of each group.

Current STEM K-8 Students are automatically assigned to STEM and do not need to re-enroll. This includes 5th graders (5th graders are automatically assigned to 6th grade at STEM). Enrollment is for new students. Unfortunately, STEM pre-school students are not automatically assigned to kindergarten at STEM. If you have a preschool student and you would like them to attend STEM, you need to apply for STEM through Open Enrollment.

Open Houses
No reservations are necessary to attend an Open House.

- Middle School Open House will take place on Thursday, January 31 from 6:00–7:00 pm
- Elementary Open House will take place on Thursday, February 7 from 6:00–7:00 pm

Elementary School Tours
For families of prospective elementary (K-5) students, tours are conducted from 9:00–10:30 am on the following dates:

- January 22
- January 25
- January 29
- February 1
- February 7

Reserve your spot on one of these tours.

Middle School Tours
For families of prospective middle school (6-8) students, tours are conducted from 10:15–11:45 am on the following dates:

- January 29
- February 1

Reserve your spot on one of these tours.
Spring Ultimate!

Are you interested in playing Ultimate this spring?

STEM students who played spring 2018 got more individualized coaching, more play-time, and more ownership over their development as players than was available during the larger varsity season.

The 2019 DiscNW Spring MS Mixed Ultimate season runs from the beginning of March through mid-May, with games on Saturdays. Practices would be Tuesdays and Thursdays from 3:40-5:15pm. Spring Ultimate would include 30-40 hours of weekday practice time plus 10-12 games on weekends.

Spring Ultimate is a bonus club season, rather than a spring varsity sport like volleyball and soccer. This means we would get to play against some private schools, and that the team would not receive support from the school district athletics department. Covering costs of league registration, coaching, and equipment for spring Ultimate will be $100-125 per player.

We will need at least 15 players to field a team. Please respond to my email by the end of January if you are interested, so that I have enough time to register a team and get each player rostered with the league before the February deadlines.

Coach Connor
cplee@seattleschools.org

Running Coaches Needed!

We still need running coaches for both the girls and boys teams for the spring session of Girls on the Run (grades 3-5) and Let me Run (grades 4-6). Please e-mail enrichment@stemk8pta.org if you’re interested! There are mandatory trainings for coaches coming up at the end of the month. Jan 27 (girls) and Jan 28 (boys).

The commitment for Girls on the Run is Tuesdays/Thursdays 3:30pm-5:00pm for 10 weeks starting on March 5 and a 5K on May 17. We also need practice partners which is much less commitment at six practices throughout the season. Community members are welcome to apply.