A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Weather conditions are likely to impact the schedule multiple days this week. Consequently we’ve had to reschedule and cancel some important events. National African American Parent Involvement Day was rescheduled from Monday, February 11 to Monday, March 4.

Unfortunately, the 5th grade Islandwood trip had to be canceled due to ice and snow conditions on the Islandwood campus and roads. We will make every effort to reschedule if space becomes available on a future week.

Also, for 8th grade families choosing a high school (and new students applying to STEM), the SPS open enrollment period has been extended to February 20.

Easy ways to check on SPS weather updates: http://www.seattleschools.org and http://www.flashalert.net/id/SeattleSD. Sorry for the weather disruptions. Hopefully we’ll get in some full school days before Midwinter Break!

Ben Ostrom
Principal
Louisa Boren STEM K-8

Snow Route Updates for Door-to-Door Services

Good news for families who use special education door-to-door service and taxis for daily transport to STEM. Due in large part to advocacy on the part of the local special education community, administration and media coverage, Seattle Public Schools has reversed their former policy and will now allow families to arrange Ice & Snow Route Service using THIS FORM.

Although it requires a five-day processing period, and may not help us during this inclement weather, the SPED@STEM group urges all impacted families to return the form ASAP. The STEM K-8 community believes that ALL our students should have access to safe and timely transportation to school.
March 7
PTA Meeting
6:30pm – 8:00pm
All welcome!
Complimentary YMCA childcare provided by the PTA.
STEM Library

March 13
SPED@STEM Meeting
6:30pm – 7:30pm
STEM Library

Auction Committee Meeting
7:00pm – 9:00pm
All welcome!
Uptown Espresso Delridge

March 14
Pi Day
More details to come.
STEM K-8

March 20
Auction Committee Meeting
7:00pm – 9:00pm
All welcome!
Uptown Espresso Delridge

March 23
STEM Auction!
Classic Seattle
5:30pm – 11:30pm
Buy Tickets Here!
The Hall at Fauntleroy
9131 California Ave SW

March 29
Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8

April 8 - 12
Spring Break
No School

Check out the school calendar here.

SPED@STEM

We hope you can join us for our second SPED@STEM community meeting – Wednesday, February 13, 6:30pm – 7:30pm in the School Library (weather-permitting).

We started the school year with our first SPED@STEM meeting for our Special Education families and it was so wonderful to meet in person and share our stories and resources. But the holidays and busy school schedules stymied our ability to schedule follow on meetings. But we have a schedule for the remainder of this school year and we hope you can join us.

Our SPED group was created by the PTA to create a support group for families with Special Education Students at STEM. The group was started out of a desire to create increased visibility and connection in a building that quietly serves so many students with special needs. Being invisible or not connected to the STEM community as a whole does not serve anyone’s needs. Special Education can mean that your student has a 504 for accommodations in their classroom, is a student in our Distinct classroom, gets services and support through Access or the Resource Room or you are a family that is seeking Special Education support and needs guidance and support from families that have navigated the process.

All are welcome to come and learn and gain support. All Meetings are held in the STEM Library from 6:30pm - 7:30pm. Mark your calendars for: 2/13, 3/13, 4/17, 5/15, 6/19.

If you have questions please contact: Rebecca Garcia Rebecca_garcia@mac.com or Shawna Murphy southernstreetkids@yahoo.com, and please join our Facebook group SPED@STEM.
STEM K-8 PTA Endorses a YES Vote on School Levies

On February 12, voters have the chance to vote YES on Propositions 1 & 2. These ballot measures are not new taxes and replace the Seattle Public Schools Educational Programs & Operations (EP&O) Levy and the Building Excellence V (BEX V) Capital Levy.

Check out this endorsement from The Stranger:

Seattle Must Vote to Renew Both Education Levies, Or Else

Why should you vote yes?

The EP&O levy bridges the gap between what the state provides and what students need. The levy:

- Funds critical day-to-day school operations
- Helps pay for school staff, instructional materials, and textbooks
- Fills a $72 million Special Education funding for 7,000 students
- Helps close the opportunity gaps by providing programs for our most vulnerable learners

The BEX V levy will:

- Improve safety and security at every single school in the district
- Remove over 70 portable across the district and add over 1900 seats
- Improve technology infrastructure for schools
- Provide equitable access to classroom technology across the district

You can learn more about why you should support students and vote yes by watching this video. You can also learn more about major projects by school and learn what those projects would mean to students by watching these videos.

Find out more about Propositions 1 & 2 by visiting www.seattleschools.org/levies and remember to vote by February 12!

A Message from Mrs. B!

Due to SNOW DAY Schedules & Missed Library Classes, Mrs. B. has turned off the auto-generated LATE/LOST Library notice e-mails for families until after we get back from mid-winter break and we return to normal school schedules. If you have any questions about your student(s) library books, please feel free to contact me. Mrs. B. in the Library!

Mary Bannister
STEM K-8 Librarian
mebannister@seattleschools.org
PTA Communications Chair Position Vacancies

Our Communications Chair, Helen Green needs to step down. Helen's excellent grammar (it's the Queen's English after all!), hard work, and kind attitude will be missed. Please join us in thanking Helen for her work, and help us find 1-3 volunteers to support these important tasks. Contact: president@stemk8pta.org to volunteer.

We need you!

These positions can be held by 1-3 persons.

Duties include:
1. Owl Post Editor
2. PTA Webmaster
3. SPS Webmaster

Training & support available for all three positions.

1. **Owl Post Editor**
   **Time:** Volunteer position / 3-4 hours weekly.
   **Skills:** Proficient in Microsoft Word. Basic WordPress helpful. The Owl Post Editor will need MS Word on a personal computer.
   Assemble the Owl Post including letter from Principal and information sent from the PTA. Plus calendar and graphics. Post Owl Post to PTA website and send to office staff for distribution.

2. **Webmaster for PTA Website**
   **Time:** Volunteer position / Varies. Approx. 3-5 hours per month.
   **Skills:** Proficient in WordPress or willing to learn (3 hours of training).
   Maintain PTA website. Keep it up-to-date. Post news posts and create pages and forms.

3. **Webmaster for SPS STEM K-8 Website**
   **Time:** Volunteer position / Varies. Approx. 2-4 hours per month.
   **Skills:** Familiarity with CMS like WordPress (SPS uses SchoolMessenger Presence) (2 hours of training).
   Maintain website. Keep it up-to-date. Post news posts and create pages. Volunteer needs to be approved by SPS.
National African-American Parent Involvement Day  
(NAAPID)

MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2019  
8:45AM

Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Gym

AGENDA

8:45AM – 
Assembly dedicated to our Parents
STEM Gym

9:30AM – 
Breakfast
Staff Lounge

10:30AM – 2:30PM – 
Read alouds, Career Fair
Library

HOW CAN I

GET INVOLVED?

* Sign up for classroom read alouds
* Sign up for Career Fair (15-30 min. block)
**Sign up in your home classroom**

VENDORS

Hella Black Books w/ Joy Sparks
During book fair – before & after school, student lunch time(s)

Breakfast provided to you by:
Kultured Cuisine Catering

Event hosted by Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Advocacy Committee, Racial Equality Committee, and Black Student Union
LBSTEMK8BSU@GMAIL.COM
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

Middle School Basketball Schedule

Saturday, February 16

Varsity Boys
Orca vs STEM
8:00am Denny

Varsity Girls
Orca vs STEM
8:00am Chief Sealth

Junior Varsity Boys
STEM C vs Eckstein C
8:00am Chief Sealth (Up)

Help Needed for Global Reading Challenge!

Friday, Feb. 15 9:00am – 10:30am
This year STEM has 10 teams of 7 students so with that many teams excitedly participating we will need some extra support getting answers and tallying scores, plus keeping time. If you are able to help, please contact Mrs. B. ASAP! (It would be best if it wasn’t a parent of students on the teams.)

Many Thanks,
Mary Bannister,
mebanister@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