



March 11, 2019

# Owl Post

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

## Upcoming Events

**March 12**

**Global Reading Challenge  
Semi-Finals**

**Time TBA**

"Clever Peeps" will represent  
STEM K-8.

*Seattle Public Library*

**March 12**

**Middle School Boys Soccer  
3:45-5:15pm**

Tuesdays @ Boren

**7:00am-8:15am**

Thursdays @ Delridge Field

**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 Night**

**6:00-7:30pm**

More info. in this Owl Post.

*STEM K-8*

**March 20**

**Auction Committee Meeting**

**7:00pm – 9:00pm**

All welcome!

*Uptown Espresso Delridge*

**March 21**

**Middle School Dance**

**5:30pm – 7:00pm**

*STEM Gym*

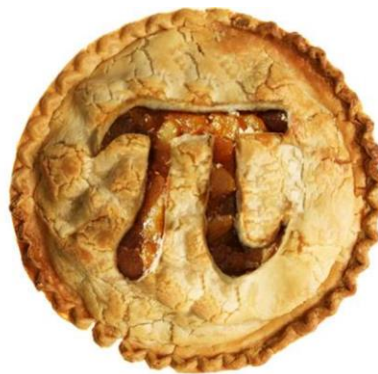
*No entrance fee*

## A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Budget cuts are making this a tough March for many Seattle Public Schools communities as they plan for the 2019-20 school year. Washington State's McCreary fix installed levy limits that created revenue shortfalls for many school districts. There is hope that legislative action later this spring will provide some relief. The good news at STEM K-8 is we were able to craft an interim budget that avoids cutting core staff. Starting last spring when the current budget shortfall was predicted, we started prioritizing reserves. Although our 2019-20 budget has significant cuts in non-staff spending, we were able to budget for a full time Assistant Principal, full time librarian, full time counselor, middle school instrumental music, and a position supporting intervention services. If increased resources appear later this spring, we will be able to restore non-staff resources.

I received a few questions regarding the recent report on SPS water quality in the Seattle Times. SPS tests water quality in school buildings every three years. We are next scheduled to be tested in 2019. No water fountains used at STEM showed concerns regarding lead or other contaminants. At the last check in 2016 there were 4 sinks not typically used by students that tested out of compliance. All are labeled with signs that they should not be used for drinking water.

Everyone is invited to Pie night at STEM on Thursday, March 14 from 6-7:30pm. Come enjoy pizza and games, and bring a pie or cookie for the "pi" walk or a salad if you are able. PTA events rely upon parents supervising their children. Please enjoy the evening's activities with your kids!



*Ben Ostrom  
Principal  
Louisa Boren STEM K-8*

## PI Night: March 14 from 6-7:30PM

Join our STEM & Sanislo communities for Pi Night! If you can help out for ½ hour, here is the link to sign up: [CLICK HERE](#).

### Rules of Game Night:

Rule # 1. **Kids need to be with an adult**, it's not a drop off event. Adults should be monitoring kids. If you don't keep an eye on them event coordinators will feed them pie. Caffeine pie. Kids - totally OK to grab a friend to play games, but act like humans not like rude running elephants.

Rule #2. **Please keep the games at the tables** and in good shape for the next game night! Throwing the games out in the rain puddles is highly discouraged.

Rule #3. **Stay in the Game night designated areas**. Anyone found outside of the game night areas will be fed to the mean nerd troll who lives by the old broiler.

Rule #4. **Have fun!** Seriously. But not so much fun that you throw up from walking around in circles at the Pi Walk too many times.

### Schedule:

@6 Pizza (cheese, pepperoni & gluten-free option), potluck salads & sides in Cafeteria

@6-7:30 Games!

@6:30-7:30 Pi Walk in the Cafeteria

Fun for the whole family - games range from PreK-Adult!

#### K-3rd:

Balance Beans  
Lazer Maze Jr.  
Math Dice Jr.  
Math Dice

#### 4th-8th & Adults:

Gravity Maze  
Color Cube Sudoku  
Rush Hour  
Laser Maze  
Clue Master  
Math Dice

Win games to take home - raffle tickets for anyone who comes!



**March 23**

**STEM Auction!  
Classic Seattle  
5:30pm – 11:30pm**  
*The Hall at Fauntleroy  
9131 California Ave SW*

**March 29**

**Spirit Wear Day**  
*STEM K-8*

**April 8 - 12**

**Spring Break  
No School**

**April 17**

**SPED@STEM Meeting  
6:30pm – 7:30pm**  
*STEM Library*

**April 18**

**Environmental Slam**  
More info in this Owl Post  
*Youngstown Cultural Arts  
Center*

**April 26**

**Spirit Wear Day**  
*STEM K-8*

Check out the school calendar  
[here](#).

## Middle School Dance

What better way to welcome the start of Spring than with a school dance? On **March 21 from 5:30-7pm**, all middle schoolers are welcome to the gym for our Spring dance! Hang out with friends, let loose, and have fun! This dance is free and open to all STEM middle schoolers.

**Please note:** If bringing guests from outside of Louisa Boren STEM, sponsoring student must fill out a guest permission form and return to school in advance. See Mr. Kincl for the form.



## Last Chance for Auction Tickets!

There are 10 seats available for anyone who have had a change of plans - arrange ticket sales with Robin at: [auction@stempta.org](mailto:auction@stempta.org).

If you have time in the week before the auction, day of auction or the evening of - thank you! To sign up via Sign Up Genius [CLICK HERE](#)



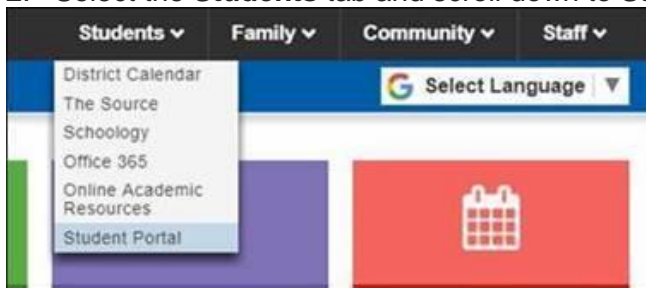
## How to Log in to TypingClub from Home

Ms. Schmick has taught students 2<sup>nd</sup> – 5<sup>th</sup> graders how to access TypingClub at school. These are the directions for accessing TypingClub from home.

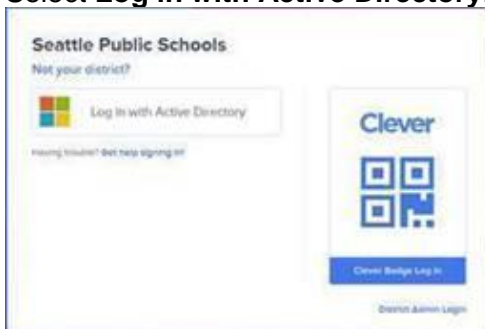
The students do not actually log in to TypingClub. They log into the Student Portal (Clever) and then they have single sign on (SSO)/automatic access to TypingClub.

To get started as **home**, students will use the following steps:

1. Open Chrome to <https://seattleschools.org>.
2. Select the **Students** tab and scroll down to **Student Portal**.



3. Select **Log in with Active Directory**.



4. Enter their unique username with **@seattleschools.org** and password  
Click **Sign In**.



5. Select the **TypingClub** icon under the Single Sign On Applications section at the top of the page.



6. Click **Start** to begin the typing lessons located in Typing Jungle.  
*Note:* middle/high school students will need to select a class before they can enter Typing Jungle.



## Assistance League of Seattle Enrichment Scholarship Program

Are you interested in applying for a summer enrichment scholarship?

Applications through the [Assistance League of Seattle](#) are open now and due on March 31<sup>st</sup>. Last year they awarded 55 scholarships up to \$500 to middle and high school students attending Seattle Schools last year. These scholarships are used for summer enrichment programs such as overnight camps, music, science, art, and more. This year, they have \$25,000 to give out to students.

To download the application & for additional information on this organization, please [CLICK HERE](#). There will also be some printed applications in the front office by the visitor sign-in sheet.



## STEM's Biking Program

Interested in STEM's biking program? We're "gearing up" for a couple fun events for our students this spring. We're looking for a few people with ideas or a couple hours to spare to help plan and organize. No experience necessary! We'll be having an optional planning meeting in April. Minimal time commitment and lots of fun! Please contact STEM parent Joe Laubach ([josephlaubach@gmail.com](mailto:josephlaubach@gmail.com)) for more information or if you or if you have an idea to share. We have already won a grant that can be used to support any activities we plan. Thanks for your interest!



## Middle School Boys Soccer

Soccer practice for middle school boys begins on Tuesday, March 12. Please check with Mr. Des or the athletics department for registration packets.

Tuesdays @ Boren 3:45-5:15pm

Thursdays @ Delridge Field 7:00-8:15am



## Email your State Senators:

We just passed the levies for more school funding (yay!) but we might not be able to collect all the money (boo!). There is a bill (SB 5313) stuck in the Senate Ways & Means Committee that would lift the levy lid and allow us to keep the money from the levies passed. Below is a script you can use to put some pressure on our state senators, and emails to send it to. Add your own personal story as well!

Send to:

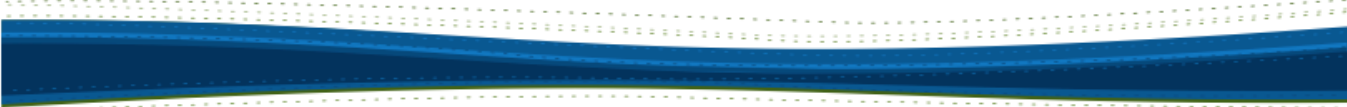
[David.Frocht@leg.wa.gov](mailto:David.Frocht@leg.wa.gov); [Reuven.Carlyle@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Reuven.Carlyle@leg.wa.gov); [Bob.Hasegawa@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Bob.Hasegawa@leg.wa.gov);  
[Jamie.Pedersen@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Jamie.Pedersen@leg.wa.gov); [Joe.Nguyen@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Joe.Nguyen@leg.wa.gov); [Rebecca.Saldana@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Rebecca.Saldana@leg.wa.gov);  
[Christine.Rolfes@leg.wa.gov](mailto:Christine.Rolfes@leg.wa.gov)

Subject: Please lift the levy lid

Dear Senators,

All of you represent families in Seattle Public Schools. I therefore urge you to work with your fellow Senators to vote SB 5313 out of the Senate Ways & Means committee and/or find another way to lift the levy lid. I am a parent of a child in Seattle Public Schools, and if the levy lid is not lifted in this budget cycle, our already underfunded district will face a \$40 million budget shortfall. Lifting the levy lid is needed just to maintain our already underfunded schools at the same level of funding they have now. so that Seattle Public Schools and other districts do not face massive budget shortfalls. We need to fully fund counselors, librarians, nurses, social workers, and special education. Seattle voters have passed continuation levies and are willing to pay the taxes to fund our public schools. Please make sure their votes count!





## Middle School Basketball Schedule

March 16

### Varsity Boys

K8 Division Playoffs  
8:30am | Franklin HS

### Varsity Girls

K8 Division Playoffs  
8:30am | Franklin HS



### 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](#)



## Environmental Slam – For STEM Middle School Students

Do you know students who are passionate about an environmental issue and want to share their passion with a wider audience? The 2019 Environmental Slam might be just what they are looking for. Three individuals or teams will be awarded \$500 each to donate to the environmental cause of their choice.

The Washington Foundation for the Environment is looking for students who want to enter this year's Environmental Slam. The Slam will be held at Youngstown Cultural Arts Center in West Seattle on the evening of Thursday, April 18, 2019.

For more information, click here: <http://wffe.org/environmental-slam/>

If any students are interested in the slam contact Robin @ [robingraham26@gmail.com](mailto:robingraham26@gmail.com) & we will organize a team.

