A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom

Novel Coronavirus (COVID-19) continues to play a trump card in our daily lives. The health and economic worries are real. Compassion and care for one another, and following basic health guidelines are vital. Community bonds are tested and built at the same time. Thanks to the many families, staff and others who are stepping up to help in and out of schools!

Seattle Public Schools (SPS) is in close contact and following the guidance of the U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and Public Health Seattle. Please read the daily communication from Seattle Public Schools for updates on an evolving situation.

Some of the reasons that schools remain open are continuing to provide educational services, maintaining an access point to critical meals, social services, and child care for thousands of students and families, supporting front-line health care providers and workers, and that most confirmed novel coronavirus cases have occurred in adults, with serious illness in children uncommon.

School events and field trips are being canceled at the current time. Pi Night devotees will have to recite their irrational digits at home. Families can help by staying informed, practicing good hygiene, and staying home or keeping children home if they have been running a fever or are exhibiting signs of a fever. For additional resources visit Seattle Public Schools coronavirus news announcements. SPS will continue to update families via social media, its website, and school messenger.

Two reoccurring less serious concerns involve students calling and texting parents from school on cell phones and student pick up. Since student phones are supposed to be up during the day, please remind your child if they call or text during the day to put their phone up and if it’s urgent call from the office. If a student is sick and has been checked by a staff member we will call you to pick them up! Also, if you are picking up your child early, please check in and we will call them down to the office. This supports a standard safety procedure of verifying identities before releasing children.

Let’s continue to look out for one another!

Sincerely,

Ben Ostrom, Principal

STEM K-8
Help out with preparing the STEM gardens for spring planting! You can join the work party from 12pm-3pm on Sunday, March 8 at the interior courtyard. Enter via the gate on Juneau Street. FYI there will be no building access for restrooms at this work party.

For more info contact Vaughn - vaughn@vaughnbell.net, also feel free to reach out if you are interested in being part of garden work planning for the future.

SUPPLIES NEEDED IN THE MAIN OFFICE:

- Hand sanitizer (if you can find any or have extra our classrooms could really use some extra bottles!) Please NO homemade sanitizer please.

THANK YOU
SEEKING ENRICHMENT PROGRAM COORDINATOR

2020-2021 School Year

Job Description. Enrichment Coordinator works with enrichment program instructors, STEM staff, the PTA Board, parents, and students to administer and continually enhance STEM K-8’s before and after school enrichment program. Duties would include, among others:

- Work with PTA survey data to independently select and develop new programs and classes.
- Interface with instructors, STEM staff and administration, PTA board and web team, and parents regarding administration of the program.
- General administration, including enrollment, roster maintenance, communication with teachers and instructors, collection of payments, qualification and payment of instructors, and room applications and assignment.
- Respond in a timely manner to parent and teacher communications.
- Provide periodic reports to the PTA Executive Board regarding status of program.
- Work to develop strategies for the enrichment program, including development of forms and procedures.
- Be present before and after school on a frequent basis in order to oversee the program and deal with issues as they arise.

Qualifications:

- Detail oriented with strong organizational skills;
- Think creatively about enrichment class offerings that can serve all kids;
- Have a focus on equity, fairness and a perspective on serving all students and our community;
- Be able to learn and become proficient in our enrichment management software (6crickets);
- Be generally available by email and cell phone for coordination with vendors, parents and school team;
- Have a flexible enough schedule to be around before and after school frequently in order to meet with instructors, parents, and school staff;
- Have some financial acuity to work with the treasurer to manage invoices, scholarships and keep the enrichment budget balanced.
**Time Commitment.** The expected time commitment is 5-10 hours per week on average (but could be more or less depending on where you are in the enrichment cycle) for one calendar year, beginning in August 2020. Ideally, the new Enrichment Coordinator is prepared to shadow the current Enrichment Coordinator, Michelle Johnson, during the 2020 Spring Enrichment program cycle to gain knowledge of the administrative process.

The Enrichment Coordinator is also on the PTA Board as an important member of the team and is required to attend meetings of the board every other month. Attendance at PTA meetings is desired.

**Pay.** This position offers a stipend paid monthly through the Seattle Public Schools payroll system for the 2020-21 school calendar year.

**To Apply.** Please send an email indicating your interest to Charles Cutter, PTA President at president@stemk8pta.org. Please email a letter explaining who you are and why you’re interested.

**Additional info:** This is a very important role for our community and students; the work is intensive. Pay is more of a stipend to offset the huge volunteer commitment this person makes to our community. We hope that anyone that takes it on would do so as much as a labor of love as for the pay. About half the students at STEM participate in the enrichment program. Because it includes scholarships and an extremely wide variety of classes, many kids participate in the STEM enrichment program who otherwise wouldn’t participate in any extracurricular activities at all. The enrichment program coordinator works directly with many of STEM’s teachers, parents, other staff and administration. If it is your goal to get to know the STEM community, this is a great way to do so. In summary, it is a demanding, involved job, but because it impacts many STEM families, it is also very rewarding.
Saturday Morning Cartoons Auction!

In support of Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA

Saturday, May 9th / 5:30pm-11:00pm
The Hall at Fauntleroy

Auction Update!

TICKETS on-sale NOW! [https://louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net/cartoons](https://louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net/cartoons)

Upcoming Auction Committee meetings have moved to Great American Diner & Bar (4752 California AVE SW) from 7-8 pm April 8, 20, 29!

Hey, Boo Boo! Why does STEM have an Auction?
The auction is one of our major fundraising events of the year and supports the PTA budget. Our hope is that guests (adults 21+ only) feel inspired to donate at the event in support of the STEM community. We depend on the countless hours of volunteer time to pull the event off and on the community at large to donate thousands of dollars in items & sponsorships to the auction itself.

What do you SCOOBY DOOBY DOO at the Auction?
Our auctions are themed! Costumes welcome or come as you are; this year come in your PJ’s ready to watch cartoons or as your favorite cartoon character.

The first half is the silent auction with hundreds of items to bid on, games, a photo booth & time to mingle. When the last silent table closes, we move to dinner, more games, and an auctioneer will run a live auction with larger packages, experiences & items.

The live auction this year will highlight local artists, include a trip to Mexico, larger themed baskets, and packages that include tickets to local events and opportunities for year-round experiences.

Tickets – Paper tickets OR [online! BEEP! BEEP! RSVP by TBD!](#)
SPONSORSHIP / IN-KIND DONOR OPPORTUNITIES
Sponsorship is another great way to support the auction. Levels from $250 to $2,500 and include a variety of benefits. Contact auction@stemk8pta.org for information or go online.

DONATIONS
We count on the generosity of our community for gift cards and donations of any new items for us to use at the auction. If you have something to give, you can enter it online. An auction volunteer can arrange pick up or you can drop it off at STEM K-8 during school hours. 
https://louisaborenstemk8.schoolauction.net/cartoons/donate_items/new

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES
We couldn't pull this off without volunteers! Please contact Robin: auction@stemk8pta.org if you can't make it to an auction meeting and still want to volunteer!

We need 23 donated desserts. Purchased desserts are welcome. Each dessert must serve 10. To donate a dessert, send an email to auction@stemk8pta.org
Congratulations to our Louisa Boren K8 STEM Global Reading Challenge winning team, **The Friendly Foxes**. Fourth Graders Isla, Annabelle, Oscar, Trixxy proudly represented Louisa Boren STEM at the Global Reading Challenge 2020 semi-finals on March 4th at Seattle Public Library. They tied for second place in this competition only missing one question! Their teamwork was inspiring! Way to represent STEM! Yeah Friendly Foxes!


Remember STEM Readers: **READ! READ! READ! READ! READ! READ!**
Please help Ms. Massimino with these MakerSpace Items!

Did you know you can earn money for our school by grocery shopping?

- Sign up for a PCC Scrip card and earn 5% of every dollar you load onto your card for our school. Support a great local company while supporting our school!

- Do you shop at Thriftway? Drop off your Thriftway receipts in the office and 1% of the purchase price of every item you buy is returned to our school.

In addition to PCC and Thriftway, there are a number of other retailers where you can earn money for STEM. Here is a [full list](http://stemk8pta.org/get-involved/shop-earn/pcc-2/).

Happy Shopping!
Ms. Morgan and her family have arrived in Taukhel, Nepal!

Check out the link below to learn about what she has been up to in Nepal and see more pictures.

Visit this link to follow along: https://arcg.is/0m00CS
VIRUSES DON'T DISCRIMINATE

AND NEITHER SHOULD WE

Stigma will NOT fight coronavirus. Sharing accurate information will.

Learn more: kingcounty.gov/ncoiv
What is novel coronavirus?

Novel coronavirus (COVID-19) is a new virus strain spreading from person-to-person in China and other countries, including the United States. In some instances, cases outside of China have been associated with travelers from China. Health experts are concerned because little is known about this new virus and it has the potential to cause severe illness and pneumonia in some people.

How does novel coronavirus spread?

Health experts are still learning the details. Currently, it is thought to spread:

- via respiratory droplets produced when an infected person coughs or sneezes.
- between people who are in close contact with one another (within about 6 feet).

How severe is novel coronavirus?

Most coronavirus illnesses are mild with fever and cough. The vast majority of people with novel coronavirus infection do not require hospital care. A much smaller percentage of people get severely ill with respiratory problems like pneumonia. Elderly people and people with underlying medical conditions are at highest risk.

What are the symptoms?

People who have been diagnosed with novel coronavirus have reported symptoms that may appear in as few as 2 days or as long as 14 days after exposure to the virus:

- Fever
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
When do I seek medical evaluation and advice?

If you have symptoms like cough, fever, or other respiratory problems, contact your regular doctor first. Do not go to the emergency room. Emergency rooms need to be able to serve those with the most critical needs.

If you have difficulty breathing, it doesn’t mean you have novel coronavirus, but you should call 911.

If you’re over 60 and you have underlying conditions like diabetes, heart disease, and lung disease, come up with a plan with your doctor to identify your health risks for coronavirus and how to manage symptoms. Contact your doctor right away if you do have symptoms.

How can I protect myself from novel coronavirus?

It is important that everyone take steps to reduce the spread of novel coronavirus, especially to protect those who are more vulnerable. Steps you can take to prevent spread of flu and the common cold will also help prevent coronavirus:

- wash hands often with soap and water. If not available, use hand sanitizer.
- avoid touching your eyes, nose, or mouth with unwashed hands.
- avoid contact with people who are sick.
- stay home while you are sick and avoid close contact with others.
- cover your mouth/nose with a tissue or sleeve when coughing or sneezing.

If you are traveling overseas, follow the CDC’s guidance: wwwnc.cdc.gov/travel.

Currently, there are no vaccines available to prevent novel coronavirus infections.

How is novel coronavirus treated?

There are no medications specifically approved for coronavirus. Most people with mild coronavirus illness will recover on their own by drinking plenty of fluids, resting, and taking pain and fever medications. However, some cases develop pneumonia and require medical care or hospitalization.

For more information: www.kingcounty.gov/covid

Updated 2/27/2020
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).

Volunteer Application (this is the link to the application and all pertinent information; you must fill this out each year to volunteer in classrooms, chaperone field trips, etc)

STEM K-8 Facebook

STEM PTA Twitter

Principal Ostrom’s Twitter

Principal Ostrom’s Blog

The first issue of the STEM GAZETTE is HERE! Featuring an article about Schuyler Bailar.

Visit the STEM website HERE to read the entire publication. Great work 7th and 8th grade students!

Must Read Article written by Ms. Bannister!


To join the STEM K8 PTA, please visit MemberPlanet using this link:
https://mp.gg/lb6jk