

**OWL POST**  
**April 6, 2015**  
**Volume 28**

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

**{Aspire, Create, Expect} <sup>more</sup>**

**Message from the Principal – Ben Ostrom:**

Thanks again for the incredible outpouring of support for STEM K-8 at the Rock ‘n’ Roll up Auction. It was an amazing community event. The funds raised will directly support enriched STEM experiences for our scholars.

Smarter Balanced Testing in English-Language Arts begins for third grade this week. Please make sure your children are well rested, fed, and on time. Mr. Gluck’s class will be testing on Monday and Wednesday, and Mr. Daniels’ and Ms. Graves’ classes will be testing on Tuesday and Thursday. All other Smarter Balanced Tests for 3<sup>rd</sup>, 4<sup>th</sup>, and 5<sup>th</sup> grade will begin in May. Parent who choose to opt their child out of testing need to provide written notice to the office (email notification is ok).

One valuable and interesting way to support STEM K-8 is to participate on hiring committees. We will be operating three hiring committees during Phase 1 of the SPS hiring process: on Wednesday, 4/22 for Special Education, Thursday, 4/23 for 5<sup>th</sup> grade, and on Friday, 4/24 for 2<sup>nd</sup> grade. To participate on hiring committees you have to have received SEA hiring training. One is being offered on Tuesday, April 7 - Room 2700 at the JSCEE. Preregistration required at [sea@washingtonea.org](mailto:sea@washingtonea.org).

Finally, don’t panic if you see a police presence outside of K-8 STEM next week. Our Kindergarteners have been participating in an extended PBL experience exploring community and some police officers will be visiting.

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**Upcoming Dates:**

<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>	<b>Place</b>	<b>Information</b>	<b>Details</b>
April 13-17			No School	Spring Break
April 24	8:30-9:25	Cafeteria	Coffee Chat	Coffee Chat with Principal Ostrom
April 24			Spirit Wear Day	
April 25	8am-1pm	Boren parking lot & garden spaces (please park	Parking lot safety, painting and garden party!	Boren parking lot safety updates and site beautification! Projects include painting, unearthing a hidden sidewalk, adding new signage, and beautifying the grounds with our amazing GREEN TEAM! We’ve got the supplies &

		on Delridge)		tools – we just need your help to make it happen!
April 30	6-7:30 pm	Boren	Kids & Safety Online	Online Safety class! Join our Arbor Heights friends for a class on keeping kids safe. SPD officer Stephanie Thomas will join us for this informative session. Not appropriate for school aged children. Childcare will be provided (YMCA).
May 7	6:30-8pm	Library	PTA Meeting	Approve Budget for 2015-2016, Vote for new Exec Team members and more!
May 28	TBD	Boren	Science Fair & Invention Convention	Stay tuned for details soon! Interested in helping out? Email Kathleen at: <a href="mailto:KQland@gmail.com">KQland@gmail.com</a>
May 29	2-3pm	Boren	Seattle Opera visit to STEM	Seattle Opera will be visiting STEM to perform their first act of their elementary school program from "Our Earth: Heron and the Salmon Girl". Next year, we hope to have this terrific program as an enrichment program for our kids- come check it out!
June 2	7-8pm		Instrumental Music Concert	Instrumental Music Concert – family evening
June 4			Summer Book Swap	Start saving your gently loved books for Summer Book Swap

- Check out this awesome video from Helen Green!  
<http://k5stempta.org/2015/04/02/awesome-auction-video/>
- Volunteer Needs: The Instrumental Music Instructor, Mr. Cheever, is looking for someone to help him make a program for the concert on June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Interested? Email Wendy at [president@k5stempta.org](mailto:president@k5stempta.org).
- Direct Give at Work: This month, the general membership of the PTA voted to supply Mr. Parsley and Mr. Des each with an iPad to allow them to start planning for next year using tech integration for the incoming 6th graders. Thank you to everyone for your generous contributions to our school.
- SPS is forming a Focus Group to provide an opportunity for school leaders and community members to collaborate on implementing new Highly Capable services at Madison Middle School and West Seattle High School. If you are interested in joining the Focus Group, application forms will be made available by mid-April on the Advanced Learning website [www.seattleschools.org/advlearning](http://www.seattleschools.org/advlearning).

**More information always [www.k5stempta.org](http://www.k5stempta.org), on Facebook (West Seattle STEM PTA) and twitter @STEMPTA**