



April 4, 2016



Owl Post

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

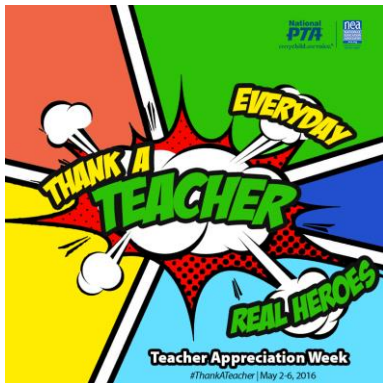
Upcoming Events

April 5
Class Photos
STEM K-8

April 7
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
Boren Library
Complimentary childcare
provided by PTA.

April 11 – April 15
No School
Spring Break

April 29
Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8



May 2 – May 6
Teacher Appreciation Week
STEM K-8

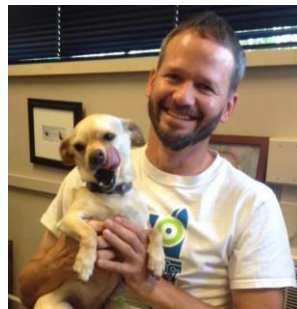
May 5
PTA Meeting
6:30pm-8:00pm
Boren Library
Complimentary childcare
provided by PTA.

May 19
Spring Science/PBL
Extravaganza
5:30pm-7:00pm
STEM K-8

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A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



Dear Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families:

Thanks again for the spectacular generosity demonstrated during the STEM Out Of This World Auction! Over \$75,000 was raised to support school programs and enrichment for next year.

This week marks our first round of interviews for next year's open positions, currently in middle school and Special Education. There are several rounds of hiring, so it's likely we will be operating hiring committees throughout the spring. If you are interested in participating in a hiring committee and took the official training, please let Cindy or me know.

Seattle Public Schools is hoping for broader family input in the Language Arts curriculum adoption process. To provide feedback on the upcoming adoption, look for the survey option on the right side of the [adoption homepage](#). The survey feedback collection has been extended to April 15. The survey is available via Survey Monkey in multiple languages or can be done via a hard copy picked up in the school office.

After Spring Break STEM 3rd – 6th graders will begin taking Smarter Balanced assessments. These are annual state-mandated assessments that are one measure of how well students are meeting standards in reading, writing, and math. The online assessments help view student growth and determine which students may need more support or more challenge. To read more about these assessments, please visit our district Smarter Balanced page at <http://www.seattleschools.org/students/academics/assessments>.

Please see the SBAC and MAP testing schedule on page 3 of the Owl Post.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Ostrom
Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Principal

Upcoming Events (continued)

May 27

Spirit Wear Day

STEM K-8

May 30

No School

Memorial Day

June 1

2-hour early dismissal

1:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 1:40pm.

June 2

PTA Meeting

6:30pm-8:00pm

Boren Library

Complimentary childcare
provided by PTA.

June 24

LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

Spirit Wear Day

1-hour early dismissal

2:40pm

STEM K-8

Pick your Owls up at 2:40pm.



Class Picture Day –Tuesday!



Say CHEESE! Class group pictures are Tuesday April 5. No need to order pictures, Yuen Lui provides each student with one free copy. Owls should come to school in UNIFORMS, as usual. (We are not offering free dress portraits this year.)

Enrichment Update



Last call for Spring Enrichment late registrations. We could use a couple more 2nd-6th grade students for After School Sports on Tuesday afternoons and Glee Struck on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons starting April 19. Check out the full schedule on the activities tab of the PTA website. Got questions? Please email afterschool@stemk8pta.org.

Thanks for Collecting Labels for Education and Box Tops!



From: Cassandra O'Neal

THANK YOU for the recent contributions of Labels for Education and Box Tops. I just ordered more (free) playground balls from Labels For Education, and Box Tops send us cash!

Bring your contributions to the collection boxes in the school office.

Safeway Mobile eScrip Available May 1

Great news for our school fundraising – Safeway is rejoining eScrip through the Benefit Mobile app. Simply go to Benefit Mobile to download the app, select/claim K8 STEM Elementary (ID #50043528), and remember to use the app when shopping at Safeway, Starbucks and many other businesses you shop daily. This is the EASY way to earn 2% for STEM on everyday expenditures!

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](#)



[Mrs. B.'s Library Page](#)



Smarter Balanced (SBAC) / MAP Testing Schedule

Week of April 4	SBAC Student Practice/Training Session
Week of April 25	5 th Grade SBAC Testing: ELA and Math
Week of May 2	3 rd - 4 th Grade SBAC Testing: ELA
Week of May 9	Daniels' 3 rd /4 th Grade SBAC Testing: ELA and Math
Week of May 16	3 rd - 4 th Grade SBAC Testing: Math
Week of May 23	6 th Grade SBAC Testing: ELA and Math
May 31	5 th Grade Science MSP

Opting Out of Testing

If you would like to opt your student out of these tests you may do so by sending an email or hard copy letter to [Principal Ostrom](#) and [Cindy Baca](#). Include the name of your student and which tests you elect to opt them out of.

Your PTA Needs YOU! Positions Open for Next Year



The STEM K-8 PTA Nominating Committee is looking for volunteers to serve on our PTA Executive Team for the 2016-17 school year. If you want to take part in the exciting work of strengthening our school community and growing our kids' and teachers' resources, consider volunteering your skills and time to our leadership team.

Open Executive Team positions include President, Vice-President, Secretary, Co-Treasurer, and Building Leadership Team Representatives. There are also lots of Board positions open including Fundraising Chair, Direct Give Chair, Art Chair, PBL Chair, and Assistant Webmaster.

Head to the [PTA website](#) for more information. Please contact the Nominating Committee: Darcey Pickard, Alouise Urness, and Mercedes Diggs at nominating@stemk8pta.org if you are interested in an open position.



THANK YOU! With your help we raised over \$75,000!

Thank you so much for all your support, donations and time to make our 2016 auction a success. Thank you again to Event Sponsors: The Johnsons at Windermere, Ventana Construction, Dunn Lumber & Funky Janes Consignment.

Let's crash land at a full 80K!

- 👤 **Corporate Matching Gifts:** Double (or triple!) the value of your gift by asking your employer to match your donation to STEM K-8 PTA. Boeing, Microsoft, Starbucks and many other Seattle companies offer matching funds. We received over \$4K in matching donations last year. Check with your HR department for information on your company's program. Contact auction@stemk8pta.org if you need help.
- 👤 **Make a Donation:** If you haven't yet made a donation and want to click "Give" at: <http://bit.ly/1UykbDM>
- 👤 **Last Chance Auction items:** If you want to bid on any of the teacher experiences that are still open, or the last few items that didn't sell at the auction here is your chance! Closes Friday, April 8 at 5 PM. All open items are online at: <http://bit.ly/1RM2T54>
- 👤 **We Want Your Feedback:** Please (even if you didn't attend) take this short survey: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/77264>
- 👤 Some items (wine, glasses, etc) came home with me post auction – let me know if you are missing anything! 😊 Robin @ auction@stemk8pta.org

Please contact auction@stemk8pta.org with any questions.

With many thanks,

Robin, Wendy and the Auction Committee at Mission Control

Library News from Mrs. B.



Here is the link to the [Elementary Literacy Adoption Webpage](#). Don't forget to take part in the English Language Arts Adoption Survey on the right sidebar.

As more information is approved via district processes, I will share out with you the work of the **K-5 ELA Adoption Committee**.

Tinkerlab!



Delridge, High Point and South Park Libraries invite families to Tinkerlab! Tinkerlab introduces science, technology, engineering and math concepts through play, experimentation and discovery. Activities include Keva planks, 3-D Mars Rover, and stop-motion animation. Visit the [Tinkerlab page](#) for times and dates of this fun weekly program!


Library Funding

Take a look at these [infographics](#) created by the SPS Librarian Equity Committee. They were recently shared with district level decision-making staff at central office. There is a SPS process, SPS School Board process and the librarian equity team is walking through it.

We are asking that central office budget fund \$10.00 per student across the district for library materials.

We know that there are many competing interests for district allocated funds, however the inequities of access to ideas, information, books, resources and a certificated librarian at each school make a compelling case.

Your library advocate for ALL SPS students!

 CURRENT AVERAGE SPS PER STUDENT ALLOCATION IS JUST
\$2.55 PER STUDENT

38% OF SCHOOL LIBRARIES K-12 RECEIVE
\$0.00
FROM SEATTLE PUBLIC SCHOOLS