



January 8, 2018

Owl Post

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

Upcoming Events



January 11
Winter PBL Extravaganza
6:00pm – 7:30pm
STEM Classrooms

January 15
Martin Luther King Jr. Day
No School

January 16
Advocacy Meeting
7:00pm – 8:00pm
All are welcome.
Uptown Espresso & Game
Emporium, 3845 Delridge Way SW

January 23
Elementary Tour
8:55am – 10:25am
Families of prospective students.
STEM K-8

January 24
PTA Meeting
6:30pm – 8:00pm
Complimentary childcare provided
by the PTA.
STEM Library

January 26
Elementary Tour
8:55am – 10:25am
Families of prospective students.
STEM K-8

January 26
Middle School Tour
10:15am – 11:45am
Families of prospective students.
STEM K-8

A Note from Principal Ben Ostrom



We hit the ground running for the new year! Many thanks to Julie Schmick and staff and parent volunteers who helped STEM K-8 host their first VEX IQ robotics tournament on Saturday. 17 teams from eight schools and clubs competed in a variety of categories. STEM 5th graders Gavyn Wooton and Lucas Austin won the Design Award to qualify for the state robotics competition. Pictures and videos are posted on the [West Seattle Blog](#). Congrats to all our participants!

On Thursday, **1-11-18 from 6-7:30 pm**, join us for STEM K-8's Winter Project Based Learning (PBL) Open House. This year STEM adopted new curricula for literacy and math that significantly impacted our school schedule. Adopting a new curriculum takes additional planning and instructional time as teachers learn how to implement and adjust to new materials. Many grade levels had to compress the time and space dedicated to PBL last fall. Adaptations to support PBL have been increasing over the course of the year. Our Winter PBL Open House is an opportunity to learn more about Project Based Learning and see both completed and current PBL work. At some grade levels the work may be less extensive than previous years given our new math and literacy adoptions.

PBL involves both individual and group work and takes a wide variety of forms. As you visit classrooms, look for essential PBL elements. Some important characteristics that define PBL:

- A) Driving Questions--Open-ended questions that students understand and find intriguing, which captures their task or frames their exploration.
- B) In-Depth Inquiry--A rigorous, extended process of asking questions, using resources, and developing answers.
- C) Significant Content--Important knowledge and skills, derived from standards and key concepts at the heart of academic subjects.
- D) A Public Audience--Work presented to other people, beyond their classmates and teacher.

Our Winter PBL Open House is an important opportunity to share with a public audience. We hope you are able to join us.

Ben Ostrom
Principal
Louisa Boren STEM K-8

January 26
Spirit Wear Day
STEM K-8

January 30
Elementary Tour
8:55am – 10:25am
Families of prospective students.
STEM K-8

January 30
Middle School Tour
10:15am – 11:45am
Families of prospective students.
STEM K-8

January 30
Dine Out for STEM K-8 & Sanislo
5:00pm – 8:00pm
Lil' Woody's/CTO/Beer Star
9807 16th Ave SW

January 31
Day Between Semesters
No School

January 31
Auction Committee Meeting
7:00pm – 8:00pm
Junction Uptown Espresso

February 1
Elementary Open House
6:00pm – 7:00pm
For prospective students and their families.
STEM K-8

February 1
Middle School Open House
7:30pm – 8:30pm
For prospective students and their families.
STEM K-8

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



Important Enrichment Announcement

Hi everyone! We are short on volunteers for our upcoming enrichment session. It is required that we have a parent volunteer in every class or it risks being canceled. Please reach out to enrichment@stemk8pta.org if you can volunteer for any of the following classes:

- *VEX IQ Advanced Robotics: Tuesdays 7:45am-8:45am
- *Running Club: Tuesdays 7:45am-8:45am
- *Carpentry: Wednesdays 7:45am-8:45am
- *Coding w/ Schmick: Thursdays 7:45am-8:45am
- *Ukelele: Thursdays 7:45am-8:45am
- *Carpentry: Mondays 3:25pm-5:10pm
- *Middle School Game Development: Wednesdays 2:10pm-3:30pm

Thank you!

Ashlee Lyman
Enrichment Program Coordinator
Louisa Boren STEM K-8

PTA Meeting Moved to January 24



Due to PBL Night, this month's PTA meeting has been moved to January 24. As usual, complimentary childcare will be provided by the PTA.

See you there!

Attn: 5th Grade Families!

Interested in learning more about middle school at STEM? [RSVP](#) for a tour (January 26 or January 30, 10:15am – 11:45am) and be sure to attend the Middle School Open House on February 1. Remember, current STEM 5th graders are automatically assigned to STEM for 6th grade.

STEM K-8 Middle School Open House
Thursday, February 1
7:30pm – 8:30pm

Return Your Library Books!



Happy New Year 2018!

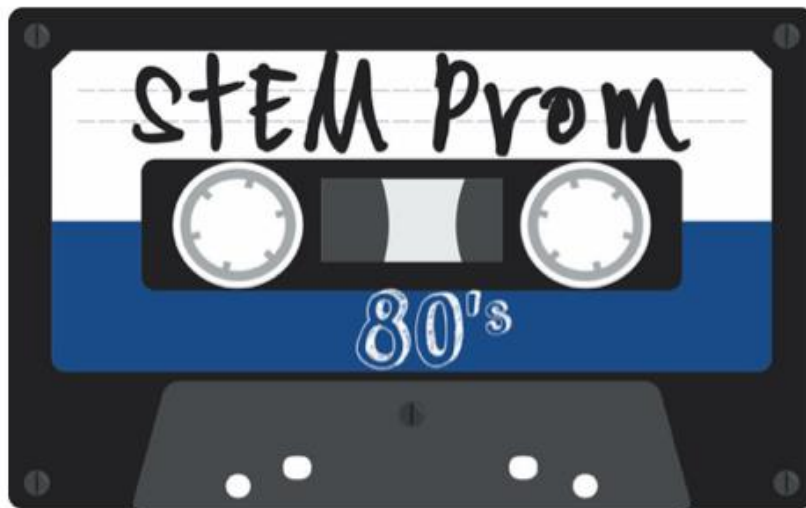
Please help your student get back into the school routine and return their library books!

We want all the students to READ! READ! READ! READ! READ! and then return their books!

Mary Bannister
STEM K-8 Librarian

Go Back to the 80's!

Jump in your DeLorean, set the flux capacitor for 1984, and [CLICK HERE](#) to check out our special edition of the Owl Post, dedicated to the STEM K-8 80's Prom!



Friday, March 2nd 5:30pm-11:00pm
The Hall at Fautleroy

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](#)



Seeking Guides to Lead School Tours

Love STEM and want to talk to prospective families about the school? If you have some time in January or February, we are seeking guides willing to lead tours of the elementary and middle school. Dates and times are as follows:
School Tours—Elementary: all elementary tours take place from 8:55–10:25 am

- 1/23/18
- 1/26/18
- 1/30/18
- 2/2/18
- 2/6/18

School Tours—Middle School: all middle school tours take place from 10:15–11:45 am

- 1/26/18
- 1/30/18

Tour leads will be provided with training and a FAQ sheet to help discuss the school. Please contact [Christine](#) with available time and dates that you can help.

Middle School Basketball Schedule

Saturday, January 13



K-8 Varsity Boys

Orca vs STEM
10:00 am Denny MS

K-8 Varsity Girls

Orca vs STEM
10:00 am Chief Sealth HS

