



Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Meeting Agenda
Thursday, November 10, 2022 – 6:30-8 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Kate Moore, Alicia Every, Ben Ostrom, Tom Every, Katie Trent, Hannah Tracy, Cindy Heidelberg, Trey Sanders, Mary Ann Lambert, Jennifer Jackson, Chirag Amin, Brenda Macias, Sarah Reed, Kate Bennett, Erika Whinihan, Michelle Luxmore, Zach Peterson

1. Call meeting to order – Kate Moore

- a. Land Acknowledgment: The Louisa Boren STEM K8 PTA acknowledges that we are on the ancestral land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish Tribe

2. Introductions

- a. Community Check In: Tom Every led those present in the meeting through a prompt: if your most memorable moment in school were a rock band, what would it be called?

3. 6:47 Principal's Update – Ben Ostrom

- a. Poem reading: *Make Music with your Life* by Bob O'Meally
- b. All classrooms are working with new math adoption, which is an adjustment. Emphasizes conceptual development, each lesson starts with a challenging problem
- c. Covid vaccination clinic at STEM on Saturday morning, 9-1
- d. Gun violence incident at Ingraham High School on Tuesday: depending on age, students were differently affected.
 - i. One member asked about metal detectors in school. Principal Ostrom is not aware of metal detectors having been discussed in SPS. Balance is weighed between community inclusiveness and how much a particular mitigation would have to improve safety
 - ii. Building up networks of support and paying attention to how kids are doing will have the biggest impact on community health and safety.
 - iii. SPS does not do active shooter drills. The school will do:
 1. Shelter in place drills, which occur when there is a higher level of concern for an event in the nearby community, and involves locking doors, heightened awareness of where each student is, and generally exercising a higher level of precaution.
 2. Lockdown drills: threat on campus, will lock classroom doors, move people away from windows and close shades if possible.

- iv. Attendees asked about general security measures at STEM, as many doors remain unlocked and a volunteer shared her ID was not checked.
 - 1. Principal Ostrom shared that a current roster of volunteers is regularly updated, ID would be checked for someone new.
 - 2. Entry procedure is that the main south doors are left open in the am until everyone enters, then locked until lunch and then all visitors must sign in through office. Same process after lunch. Staff does a walk through with Security each year to check against protocol.
 - 3. Volunteers and non-volunteers who want to visit the classroom must have an appointment with the teacher. General office procedure is unless you know the person, make an introduction and verify purpose for the visit
 - 4. A parent asked about the potential for raising funds for a key card system for the school that would allow permissioned access to various areas in the building. This will be a district levy funded initiative.
 - 5. A parent asked about effective methods of prevention. P Ostrom said it's creating opportunities to understand who kids are, creating safe spaces for them to self express. Schools would benefit from a larger community network of people who do intensive counseling, but this is not something schools would provide.
 - 6. Kate Moore tabled the discussion due to time constraints

4. 7:15 - Minutes Approval

- a. Technical difficulties delayed minutes approval from the October meeting
- b. At 7:35, members reviewed the minutes. Kate Moore moved to approve the minutes and the members present approved.

5. 7:20 – Kate Moore

- a. Kate Moore read the report of the nominating committee (Zach Peterson, Angela Wallace and Jess Andre) aloud and announced that all candidates meet the requirements of the WSPTA Uniform Bylaws:

Co-President: Kate Moore

Co-President: Alicia Every

Vice President: Erin Eaton

Co-Treasurer: Trey Sanders

Co-Treasurer: Tom Every

Secretary: Katie Trent

The signed report was in the hands of the Co-President, Kate Moore and the committee was thanked for its work. Co-President Kate Moore re-read the proposed slate of officers. Co-President Kate Moore asked for nominations from the floor for co-president, vice president, secretary and treasurer, in turn. Alicia Every, present at the meeting, nominated Michelle Luxmore as Co-Vice

President, and Tom Every seconded. There were no additional nominations and the co-president declared the nominations closed. Nominees were elected by voice vote and vote by chat in the virtual meeting room, plus prior email vote in accordance with the WSPTA Bylaws Article 5 Section 6B, with all positions on the slate approved.

- b. Kate Moore and Alicia Every thanked Kate Bennett for stepping in at the last minute as Vice President in the prior year

6. Committee Updates

a. 7:37, Trey Sanders, Treasurer's Report

- i. Mission and Values Review: Enhance STEM learning, Support PBL as a core tenet of curriculum, Enrichment, School/Staff support, Creating a safe space, and Student/Family/Community Building
- ii. Budget actuals: Income to date is \$2,574.14, expenses are \$9,354.32
- iii. Money is coming from recurring direct give donations and the 7th grade fundraiser
- iv. Money is going to: library support, PBL support, classroom item support, staff appreciation support, membership subsidies

b. Mary Ann Lambert, Fundraising Committee Update

- i. Second Mod Pizza Dine Out fundraiser today, 11/10. Last month's raised ~\$250. Next is in December.
- ii. Direct Give fundraiser will be in the Spring
- iii. Working to repeat the Art Raffle
- iv. Working on International Food Festival fundraiser in April
- v. Paper Boat Booksellers, 11/15 - 11/20, if you mention STEM when shopping in store, a portion of sales will be donated. Room liaisons coordinating teacher wish lists for classroom libraries to support the fundraiser and benefit the classrooms.
- vi. Thanks to Cindy for sharing fundraising and other info on social media, Owl Posts, etc. Website will be a reliable source in the future, currently under construction
- vii. Would love more help on fundraising events: art raffle, food festival, STEM community week. Get in touch with Mary Ann to help

c. Hannah Tracy - Race and Equity update

- i. Culture Day event 11/3 – 11/4 was very fun and successful, lots of parents helped day-of and behind the scenes
- ii. Race and Equity Team is working on team identity; previously denied district acknowledgment so working on steps to gain acknowledgment
- iii. Team would like to get BSU up and running again
- iv. Contact Hannah if interested in working on the team or step in as chair (preferably POC): raceandequity@stemk8pta.org

d. Cindy Heidelberg, Communications Update

- i. Regularly updating Facebook and Instagram, follow there to stay informed
- ii. Website is WIP

7. 7:52 Open Discussion Items – Kate Moore

- a. Enrichment Coordinator: Lauren Browhan. Program will start small and build as community can support. Hoping each grade level will have an offering, but a parent volunteer must be at each class offering or the class cannot take place.
- b. Next Thursday is Staff Appreciation Lunch – look out for an email to solicit donations of items
- c. Playground Safety Concerns: a kindergartener broke their arm falling off of the raised playground bed. Parents who are interested in pressuring the District to improve the playground (which was initially built as a temporary structure). Highland Park and Pathfinder received neighborhood grants to redo their playgrounds.
- d. Parking lot painting party: need to paint the crosswalk, more clear lanes, make the east side staff parking, west side for parents/volunteers. Likely wait for Spring.

8. Adjourned by Kate Moore at 8:10 pm