



Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Meeting Agenda
Thursday, January 12, 2023 – 6:30-8 PM

MEETING MINUTES

Attendees: Alicia Every, Kate Bennett, Kate Moore, Tom Every, Trey Sanders, Mary Ann Lambert, Kate Stockert, Katherine ___, Kimberly Noble, Jen Jackson, Chirag Amin, Kim Noble, Aimee Jones, Erika Whinihan, Shana Woodrome, Cindy Heidelberg, Hannah Tracy, Kate Stockert, Lauren Brohawn, Paula Clement, Margo Bergman, Amy Yun, Ellie Robinson, April Miller, Jane ___, Michelle Luxmore, Erin Eaton

1. Call meeting to order – Alicia Every

- 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 directed break out groups to share what they are looking forward to in 2023

3. Principal's Update – Kimberly Noble

- a. Poem reading: quote from Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. beginning with: "Science investigates, religion interprets..."
- b. Dr. MLK Assembly on Tuesday, 1/17 organized by Racial Equity team
- c. Coach appointed for basketball team to work with boys' and girls' teams along with Coach Sonja
- d. Colleen Stephens obtained an \$11K grant to support outdoor learning, will be funneled to 5th and 8th grade students for three-day trip
- e. Safety updates:
 - i. Doors to breezeway are now locked at all times
 - ii. Card reader systems are starting to come into the District. Security has assured Principal Ostrom STEM will move up the list on priority
- f. Calendar updates:
 - i. PBL Night is January 26
 - ii. Middle school quarter ends February 8, elementary trimester just beginning
- g. Hannah Tracy asked about the process when a substitute teacher is not available.
 - i. Ms. Noble responded that when a sub shortage occurs, the classroom is divided up among other classrooms (outside of Covid protocols). For instruction teachers have created work packets for students to work on under those circumstances.

- ii. Cindy Heidelberg asked if there will ever be advance notice so parents could opt to keep kids home when they will be distributed among classrooms. Ms. Noble responded that normally the dividing up response occurs only in the event they don't have advance notice to prepare a sub for the room.
- h. Kate Moore asked for Ms. Giza's date of return. Ms. Noble said she was not certain but soon.

4. 7:05 - Minutes Approval

- a. Members reviewed the minutes. Kate Moore moved to approve the minutes and the members present in person and virtually approved.

5. Committee Updates

a. Trey Sanders, Treasurer's Report

- i. Mission and Values Review: Enhance STEM learning, Support PBL as a core tenet of curriculum, Enrichment, School/Teacher/Staff support, Creating a safe space, and Student/Family/Community Building
- ii. Budget actuals: Income to date is \$7,608.25, expenses are \$23,935.08
- iii. Money is coming from recurring direct give donations, Paperboat Booksellers fundraiser, and Giving Tree donations
- iv. Money is going to: library support, PBL support, classroom item support, staff appreciation support, membership subsidies, annual insurance renewal

b. Mary Ann Lambert, Fundraising Committee Update

- i. New fundraising activities coming up:
 - 1. Dine outs every month. Next Thursday, 1/19 at Mod Pizza Westwood Village. Feb will include Chipotle and Mod Pizza
- ii. Move-a-Thon on Feb 2-3 during regular PE classes. Parent volunteers to assist. Will include workout stations, students will break up into groups, work at each station for ~3 minutes. Website set up where students can have their own fundraising page to share for pledges in support of PTA/Move-a-Thon
 - 1. Parents, please volunteer if available to help!
- iii. STEM community week will be week including Pi Day, mid-March
 - 1. Mon – Fri, each day of the week will have a STEM-themed event that is free to attend
- iv. International Food Festival, partnering with Race & Equity Team. Student chefs will prepare and share bite-sized foods at ticketed event
 - 1. Working to get guest chefs from local restaurants to attend
- v. Direct Give fundraiser will take place in early May to align with city-wide Give Big

c. Hannah Tracy - Race and Equity update

- i. Race and Equity team has split into sub committees: (1) events, (2) professional development for faculty, (3) survey data analysis
- ii. Contact Hannah if interested in working on the team:
raceandequity@stemk8pta.org

6. Margo Bergman, GGlows Update

- a. Working to plan something for 3/31 International Day of Trans Visibility

7. Cindy Heidelberg, Communications Update

- a. Staff Appreciation Day is tomorrow, 1/13. May be lacking sign ups and would love donations for staff breakfast
- b. Open Enrollment coming in February. STEM school tours and open house volunteers needed to host tours. See STEMK8PTA website for details and to volunteer
- c. Follow on social channels to keep up to date on happenings

8. Lauren Brohawn, Enrichment

- a. No update for this meeting

9. 7:52 Open Discussion Items – Kate Moore

- a. PBL Night coming on January 26, 6 – 7:30 PM
- b. The way the PTA started this year was unusual. Normally all officers are ready in June and then vote occurs in September. Would like to follow normal course next year, so need a nominating committee soon to help solicit board position volunteers.
 - i. Currently have two vice presidents; one may step up or both may move up. They need to discuss amongst themselves.
 - ii. Current co-treasurer will advance to treasurer
 - iii. Any interest in helping, please step up to the nominating committee by letting the Presidents know
- c. Kate Moore:
 - i. Mary Ann Lambert will step down from Fundraising Chair next year. Need someone to step into this role. Incredibly important role for the PTA budget and to continue funding student activities
 - ii. Kate and Alicia still intend to support executive board members next year despite not serving active roles
- d. Jane requested an update on the tetherball pole. Paula Clement shared that the kids do not listen well about safety at the tether ball pole. It broke about 10-12 times in three days last year, which is why it was removed. This year little kids are allowed to play, 3-5 graders play, middle schoolers are not using the equipment correctly but do need to find a way for them to use it more; need more supervisors to allow.
- e. Mary Ann asked about the West Seattle Elementary Equity fund. Hannah Tracy said we need to revisit the discussion about whether to contribute to the fund, which seeks to redistribute PTA funds from schools with larger funds to Title I schools so experiences are equitable across West Seattle elementary students. Alicia Every suggested the Board discuss and then bring to the meeting next month. As a choice school, we have the diversity and free and reduced lunch numbers to technically meet Title I criteria.
- f. Mary Ann and others discussed the option of a beer garden at an art auction, which led to a discussion of making events inclusive for families of Muslim faith. The attendee members discussed the need for representation from that

community to better represent needs and interests of potential Muslim event attendees.

- g. Alicia Every reminded attendees that Ms. Danielle asked everyone to complete a survey on behavior guidelines. Please complete if able
- h. Jen Jackson asked about parent expectations regarding classroom communication. Alicia Every explained that it generally depends on the teacher and the room liaison and suggested that Jen reach out to her to touch base with Jess Andre and can put her in touch with the room liaison. Also, double check that email is correct with the teacher.

10. Adjourned by Alicia Every at 8:00 pm