



**Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday, May 9, 2024 – 6:30-8 PM**

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Tom Every, Katie Trent, Christy Markham, Sara Betts, Kate Moore, Heidi Paulson, Ben Ostrom, Alicia Every, Christine Jones, Erin Mich, Margo Bergman, Jess Andre, Paula Clement, Aeryn Gray, Hannah Tracy, Caitlin Simoneaux, TB Macias, MC Nachtigal, Cindy Heidelberg

**1. Call to Order – Christy Markham**

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

**2. Minutes Approval**

- a. Minutes from the April 18 general meeting were reviewed and approved by the members present.

**3. Staff Appreciation, etc – Paula Clement**

- a. Staff Appreciation was a success!
- b. Glow Owls Party May 31 from 6-8, on the playground
- c. Next week LGBTQIA+ club selling appreciation grams, \$2 to send a note with candy to a friend/teacher/etc
  - i. Need helpers to sell grams M, T, W next week before school. Will distribute a sign up genius ASAP
- d. T Shirts coming for Glow Owls event, more info coming soon

**4. Move a Thom**

- a. Happening now! Goal is \$30K, currently at about \$11K. Campaign will stay open for two weeks after the event concludes

**5. Treasurer's Report – Tom Every**

- a. Mission/Values: Enhance STEM Learning, Support PBL, Enrichment, School/Staff Support, Create a safe space, student/family/community building
- b. YTD income: \$40,781.26
- c. YTD expenses: \$30,976.62
- d. Sources of funds:
  - i. Direct Give: currently at \$21.8K (net) of \$25K goal

- ii. Movie Nights
  - e. Money going to: PBL classroom support, Staff appreciation
- 6. Currently in 2024-25 Budget process. Many thanks to the Committee, next meeting will look to approve the budget

**7. PTA Open Positions for 2024-25 school year**

- a. Many open positions! Have been running very slim this year and would love more support next year!
- b. Great way to influence and support the school!
- c. Flexible on time needed
- d. Open Positions:
  - i. Secretary
  - ii. Co-VP (with Erin Mich)
  - iii. Committee Chairs
    - 1. Advocacy
    - 2. Communications
    - 3. Events Coordinator
    - 4. Fundraising
      - a. Ideally 2-3 people will work on this
    - 5. LGBTQIA+
    - 6. Membership
    - 7. Race & Equity Co-Chair to work with Hannah Tracy
    - 8. Special Education Coordinator
    - 9. Room Parent Coordinator
    - 10. Tech
- e. Email [president@stemk8pta.org](mailto:president@stemk8pta.org) if you have any interest in learning more or volunteering
- f. Co-chair or co-positions is a great way to onboard

**8. PTA Nominating Committee – Must Elect Today**

- a. Today looking to elect three PTA members to a nominating committee
- b. Kate Moore, Erin Mich and Heather Persinger volunteered, and were voted in by members present

**9. Library update – Sara Betts**

- a. STEM book check out really active, very high relative to other K8 schools in the district
- b. Ordering books with leftover fund

**10. Cascadia Fresh Market – Christy Markham**

- a. Starting May 15, 20% of proceeds will go to STEM PTA every Wednesday. Don't have to say STEM, it's automatic
- b. They also welcome volunteers if anyone is interested, please inquire with Cascadia

## 11. Building Safety Team – Aeryn Gray

- a. Recent updates:
  - i. Fire drill this month, earthquake drill next month
  - ii. At last meeting, discussed general concerns that have popped up.
    - 1. Empty lockers now locked so not used to house things that shouldn't be brought to school
    - 2. Reach out with any questions or concerns, BST is here to help!
      - a. [aegray@seattleschools.org](mailto:aegray@seattleschools.org)
      - b. [bmdiggs@seattleschools.org](mailto:bmdiggs@seattleschools.org)
    - 3. Vaping in the restrooms: looking into detectors, assemblies to discuss safety and substances
      - a. PTA Exec Board met with Administration today to partner on safety concerns. Working on multiple workstreams to build a community of safety in the days/years to come
- b. BST meetings are public meetings and all are welcome to attend, many rules and regs mean only members may vote

## 12. Principal Check-In – Ben Ostrom

- a. *[Missed the poem title and author – sorry!]*
- b. News from SPS Board yesterday that 70 elementary schools may be consolidated into 50 (minus 20 schools) in the 2025-26 school year. The District has SPS Board's approval to further develop a plan .
  - i. No mention of K8 schools. May or may not be included vis a vis ambiguity
- c. Next year, Mr. O will be taking a year-long leave to focus on recovering from a 2022 accident
  - i. Choosing to forego right to return, meaning STEM may hire a principal following a full search for the best possible candidate
  - ii. Assume search process will start next week, likely to start with staff and family meetings
  - iii. Anyone interested in participating in any hiring committee must complete online training (quick).  
<https://www.seattlewea.org/membership-resources/interview-hiring-training/>
  - iv. Anticipate a candidate is selected by end of the year to get oriented before the school year is through

13. Adjourned by Christy Markham at 7:54 pm