



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

**MEETING MINUTES**

**Attendees:** Christy Markham, Cindy Heidelberg, Kate Moore, Christine Jones, Cayley Crotty, Heidi Paulson, Sue Costa Paschke, Kate Bennett, Trey Sanders, John Mich, Ben Ostrom, Tom Every, Shawna Murphy, Erin Mich, Lauren Brohawn, Erika Whinihan, Anya \_\_\_\_, Jane \_\_\_\_, Jess Andre, Caitlin Huertas, Stephanie Fiand, Hannah Tracy, Aeryn Gray, Whitney Hunt, Darcy Linq Mars, MC Nachtigal, Layla Casteel, Kelly Casteel, Alicia Every, Paula Clement, Kelly Marie Smith, Michelle Luxmore

**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. Heidi Paulson – Mural Request**

- a. Ava Whitley was asked to paint a mural to brighten the walls, approved by P> Ostrom, looking for ~\$240 in materials support (paint, paintbrushes)
- b. One team looking for string
- c. PTA will assist with looking for community support

**3. Community Check In –**

- a. What is your favorite Fall scent?
- b. Things you'd like to see the PTA focus on, what you're excited to help with
- c. Concerns you'd like to see addressed
- d. In group sharing, a work party for gardening was mentioned, connecting parents to teachers for volunteer opportunities, tidying up the girls locker room, better distribution of snacks for classrooms rather than feast and famine from class to class, strong focus on fundraising is needed!!, review of open positions and need to advertise was raised and acknowledged, opportunity for PTA to access Talking Points

**4. Tom Every, Treasurer's Report**

- a. 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

- b. Budget for the year is \$111K, expenses to date are \$7,397, income to date is \$0 (but \$8,568 funds have been raised, just not in bank account)
- c. Money coming from: Direct Give, Movie Night fundraisers. Can direct donate outside of fundraisers on the website. Stemk8pta.org
  - i. Anyone with corporate match, please consider seeking a match!
  - ii. Movie night brought in almost \$1K for 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> grade
- d. Money going to: Bank/membership fees, library \$7K frontloaded for the year

**5. Erin Mich, LGBTQIA Updates**

- a. Looking into LGBTQ training, was in contact with SPS coordinator
- b. Hoping in lieu of a PTA meeting, can host during the 11/9 meeting time
- c. Transgender Week coming in November and the school would look to raise visibility

**6. PTA Minutes Approval from 9/21/23**

- a. Kate Moore called a vote to approve the minutes. Those present in the room as well as virtually attending approved.

**7. Room Liaison Question**

- a. A parent liaison asked if Donors Choose Requests are acceptable
- b. Mr Ostrom said it's a great option and would recommend marketing to the classroom community for best outcomes
- c. Lauren B shared that at another school a teacher survey of "favorites" was conducted and shared with parents as a FYI for potential gifting guidance, no pressure
- d. A parent asked how LGBTQ lessons are managed and how parents with concerns can be aware of the content. Principal Ostrom shared that families will be made aware of planned lessons and parents have the opportunity to opt out, though conversations that arise organically can't be publicized in advance

**8. Principal's Update – Ben Ostrom**

- a. Have a really amazing staff this year
- b. Facility Planners came through the school this week, but not related to school consolidation
- c. Many questions about reduction in special education. Fewer resource room students than previously projected, 22 vs planned 27/28, so lost a .5 FTE. Future IEP assignments may adjust resources, as in additional instruction assistance minutes. TBD. Will be at 24 students soon.
  - i. Parents had specific IEP questions that Mr. O recommended a personal IEP meeting would be the best place to address

**9. Other**

- a. Mod Pizza fundraiser coming on 10/19, 20% of proceeds benefit STEM, will share via email

- b. Paula Clement shared that the staff appreciation event in September was awesome, had food for days
- c. Aeryn Gray shared that BLT and other committee involvement opportunities are abundant, Race and Equity Team has open invite to join, Building Safety Team has room, great way to be involved in the school

**10. Adjourned by Christy Markham at 8:11 pm**