



# Owl Post

Week of November 2, 2020

## Upcoming Events:

**November 3<sup>rd</sup> 3PM-6PM** | Library Curbside Check-Outs/Returns

**November 12<sup>th</sup> 6:30-8:00PM** | PTA Zoom Meeting & LGBTQ + Book Discussion

**November 17<sup>th</sup> 3PM-6PM** | Library Curbside Check-Outs/Returns

**November 23<sup>rd</sup>-27<sup>th</sup>** | Thanksgiving Break (No School / Parent/Teacher Conferences)

**The STEM PTA needs your help! We have openings that need to be filled for Vice President, Co-Treasurer, Advocacy Chair & Race & Equity Chair. See details below!**

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## Message from Principal Ostrom:



### STEM Families,

November 3 is Election Day. This important election comes at a time that none of us could have imagined a year ago. We are navigating a pandemic and remote learning while working to uphold our values as a district and commitment to becoming an anti-racist organization. Locally and nationally, we are witnessing and experiencing violent expressions of racism and actions along with related protests, and for some of us, participating in a national debate about the value of our lives and the lives of people we love. It is normal for election outcomes to cause some level of anxiety – this year is truly unprecedented.

As your child's principal I want you to know that together, we will create a safe, respectful learning environment next week – no matter the outcome of the elections. Staff are preparing questions to facilitate students' conversation, development of critical thinking skills and their own ideas.

While we can't predict what will happen next week, what I can promise is that the election results won't change our commitment to community and equity at STEM. No matter who wins or loses the election, your child's wellbeing, safety, and academic success remain our priority. We will continue to work towards dismantling systemic racism, building community, creating more engaging and effective remote learning, and supporting families to meet basic needs.

I also want to offer resources for you to use at home to support conversations about the 2020 election.

- Common Sense Media, [17 Tips to Steer Kids of All Ages Through the Political Season](#) with K-5, Middle School and High School resources including a 30 second video
- Common Sense Media, [5 Thing to Tell Your Kids About the Election](#)

Finally, this is an unusual election season, and it may take longer than normal for the votes to be tallied. This may cause additional apprehension and stress for students and your family. Please take care of yourself and your loved ones. [You can find health and wellness resources provided by trusted community partners linked here.](#)

Stay healthy, brilliant, and sane,

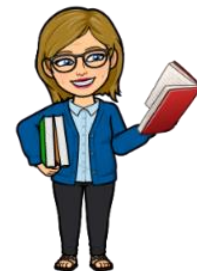
**Ben Ostrom**  
**STEM K-8 Principal**

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## Mrs. B's Library Message:

**Dear STEM Owls and Families,**



Upcoming STEM Outdoor Library:

Tuesday, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3-6pm. Please place your HOLDS by Friday, Oct. 30<sup>th</sup>.

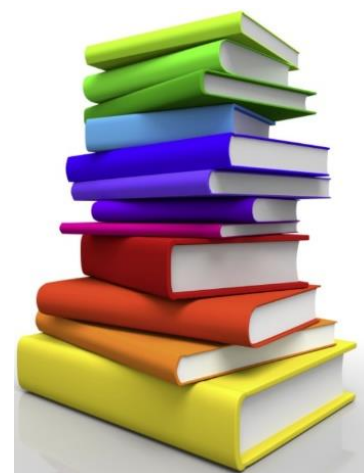
Tuesday, Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> from 3-6pm. Please place your HOLDS by Friday, Nov. 13<sup>th</sup>.

**Tuesday, November 3<sup>rd</sup> from 3-6pm**, undercover in front of the office door area. **"Patriotic/United States"** book promotion. Please place HOLDS by Friday, October 30<sup>th</sup>.

**Tuesday, November 17<sup>th</sup> from 3-6pm**, undercover in front of the office door area. **"Thankful"** book promotion. Please place HOLDS by Friday, November 13<sup>th</sup>.

If any adult is available to volunteer for the Oct. 27<sup>th</sup>, Nov. 3<sup>rd</sup> or Nov. 17<sup>th</sup> dates, please e-mail Mrs. B [mebannister@seattleschools.org](mailto:mebannister@seattleschools.org) (Sorry we can't have your kids with you for volunteering.)

\* If King County or Seattle changes to a lower phase, or if there are ice/snow/storm conditions, these dates are subject to cancellation.



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**Library HOLDS Directions:** SPS has added Chinese, Spanish, Somali and Vietnamese translations to our holds instructions. These are available here:

[https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/library\\_services/library\\_resources](https://www.seattleschools.org/departments/library_services/library_resources)

### **Passwords for STEM Library Resources**

STEM Scholars can log into the STEM Library Catalog with their SPS username (without the @seattleschools.org) and their CLEVER password. If they are not able to get into Destiny Discover, their classroom teacher can reset their password for them.

STEM Library Catalog: Capstone Interactive eBooks

Site username: **wbb48836Site** password: **follett**

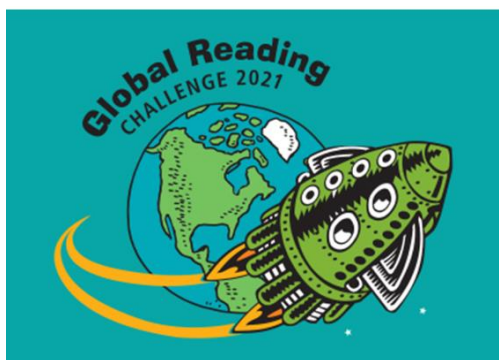
### **SPS Online Resources**

Username: **studentsps** Password: **access**



SPS Online Resource Novelist K - 8

Username **studntsp** Password **access20!**



The Global Reading Challenge is a reading incentive program for 4th and 5th graders enrolled in Seattle Public Schools. Students form teams and read selected books, then take part in a trivia competition. This year there is also the option to form ART Teams which will be submitted by photo and is not a competition, but a celebration!

Titles will be announced on Monday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>. Mrs. B. will be meeting with 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade classes in TEAMS meetings on November 2<sup>nd</sup> to get the STEM Global Reading Challenge kicked off! For more information:

<https://www.spl.org/programs-and-services/learning/global-reading-challenge>

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## Connect with Mrs. B

STEM Library Website:

<https://borenstemk8.seattleschools.org/academics/library>

Twitter: [@STEMLIBRARY1](https://twitter.com/STEMLIBRARY1) [mebannister@seattleschools.org](mailto:mebannister@seattleschools.org)

## Global Reading Challenge

Global Reading Challenge Titles will be announced on November 1<sup>st</sup>.

They will be available at STEM Outdoor Library as soon as we have received, quarantined and processed them.

4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grade students have priority from Nov. 1<sup>st</sup> until the end of February. After that, all STEM Scholars may check out this year's titles.



## Promote a love of reading for 4th and 5th graders!

Every year, 4th and 5th graders from Seattle Public Schools participate in this fun team reading challenge presented in partnership with The Seattle Public Library.

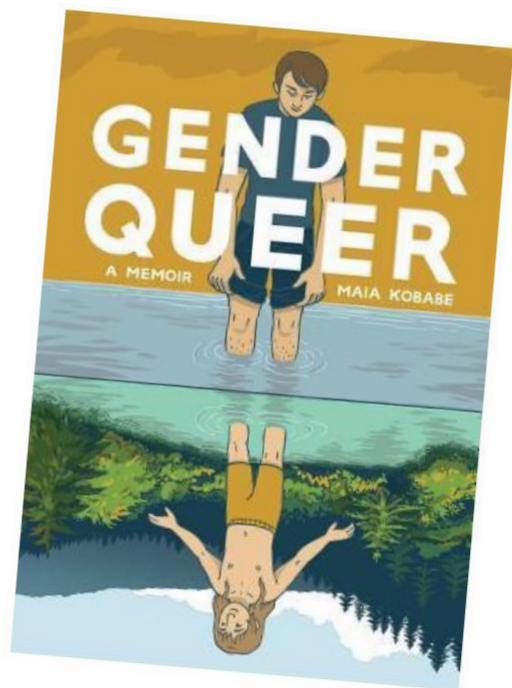
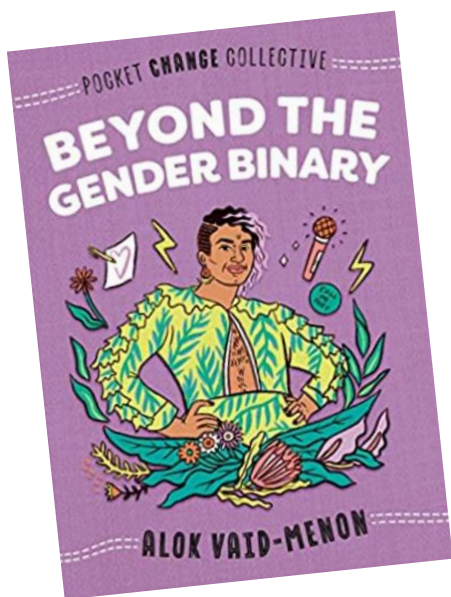
### Encourage your kids to sign up and:

- Discover books that appeal to reluctant readers
- Read stories that reflect diverse cultural experiences
  - Build teamwork and cooperation skills

Learn more at [www.spl.org/GRC](http://www.spl.org/GRC)

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Join our LGBTQ+ Book Group Discussion at our November PTA meeting on Thursday, November 12<sup>th</sup>!



Every November the PTA hosts a workshop and/or speaker for our families on the topic of Gender Identity. This year we are inviting you to read *Beyond the Gender Binary* by Alok Vaid-Menon (rated 7th grade and up) and/or graphic novel memoir, *Gender Queer* by Maia Kobabe (rated high school and up) and come to our November PTA meeting to talk with others about these books. Mrs. B will have 2 copies of *Beyond the Gender Binary* available at the next curbside check out.

Topic: General PTA Meeting (November 12, 2020)

**Time: Nov 12, 2020 06:30 PM Pacific Time (US and Canada)**

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://zoom.us/j/99599257151?pwd=STUyNDVsak83RytXREtwNHk2eGVsUT09>

Meeting ID: 995 9925 7151

Passcode: 5950

**To JOIN THE PTA, please use this link:**

<https://www.memberplanet.com/packetview/louisaborenstemk-8pta/louisaborenstemk-8pta>

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## Our Student, Our Stories Featuring STEM Families!

Seattle Public Schools Health Education Office and local Seattle photographer Nate Gowdy have joined forces to highlight the stories of our amazing LGBTQ+ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer and more) students in Seattle Public Schools, as well as LGBTQ+ staff in a photo book and portrait exhibit.

The "[Our Students, Their Stories](#)" project showcases the strength, resilience, and unapologetic pride of these queer and trans students. This project also highlights the loving and supportive families of these LGBTQ+ young people, as well as shines light on some LGBTQ+ staff who help lift up queer and trans youth in big and small ways every day.

The photo book and stories gathered will be used to inform staff training, classroom education, community engagement, parent education, and to celebrate our students' individual journeys today, and act as a touchstone for future generations.



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## Message from Ms. Bea of Delridge Library:

### Seattle Public Library has launched Tutor.com, a free tutoring service to library card holders!

The Seattle Public Library is launching Tutor.com today! Tutor.com has over 3,000 highly vetted expert tutors, who can help youth with schoolwork, tutoring and academic coaching in a variety of subjects in a safe and secure online classroom. 1-1 help is available in math, writing, science, history, foreign languages, college essay writing, Advanced Placement (AP) courses and more.

- Service is available 7 days a week, 2-10 p.m. in Spanish/English and 4-7 p.m. in Vietnamese
- Students can use their microphone to communicate with tutors; we hope this will be easier for English language learners
- Teens and adults can use this service to get help with filling out job applications and writing a cover letter and resume

All you need to do is go to [www.spl.org/VirtualTutoring](http://www.spl.org/VirtualTutoring) and log in with your library card and pin or your Library Link number and pin to connect!

We know from our yearly Homework Help surveys that relationships are our most powerful tool and the work you do every day is so effective in building trust and reaching youth and families. We really need your help in sharing this service first with Black, Indigenous, Latino and youth and families of Color who are furthest away from educational justice.

**Families and community will need a lot of support connecting with Tutor.com:**

- Support in learning how to [navigate The Source](#) to find student ID numbers
- Help to turn their Student ID numbers into Library Link numbers, [www.spl.org/LibraryLink](http://www.spl.org/LibraryLink)
- Understand the benefits of Tutor.com and help folks log in using their library card/pin or Library Link number/pin. [www.spl.org/VirtualTutoring](http://www.spl.org/VirtualTutoring)

**Beatriz Pascual Wallace "Miss Bea"**

**Children's Librarian**

**The Seattle Public Library**

Delridge Branch

5423 Delridge Way SW

Seattle, WA 98106

206-733-9125

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## Calling all STEM Adults! Please we really need your help!

*Have you ever considered volunteering for a non-profit Board? Now is your opportunity! The [Louisa Boren STEM PTA](#) is seeking volunteers to fill two officer positions for the 2020-21 school year! Our Executive Board needs a **Vice President and Co-Treasurer** and our General Board has openings for our **Advocacy Chair and Race & Equity Chair**. Our PTA is active, organized, and committed to the well-being of our school community. Our work is grounded in equity; we support school activities to fill gaps in District funding, including annual library book purchases, project-based learning supplies, classroom resources and supplies, substitute teachers, and teacher development. Please consider offering your time to support our kids and teachers during this upcoming year! Contact Angela Wallis, nominations committee chair, at [secretary@stemk8pta.org](mailto:secretary@stemk8pta.org), or 206-999-2132 with questions, or to demonstrate your interest!*

### **Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA Executive Team Vice President and Co-Treasurer Roles and Responsibilities**

The STEM K8 PTA Board of Directors is engaged, active, and committed to providing funding and activities to engage all students and teachers. We look forward to filling this important position for the 2020-21 school year. The Vice President position “rolls up” to President for the 2021-22 school year (a two-year commitment).

#### **VICE PRESIDENT** Duties of the Vice President include:

- Leading committees as needed;
- Participating in at least one major fundraising initiative;
- Participating in and volunteering for school and PTA events;
- Depositing and signing checks as needed;
- Participating in monthly meetings and other communications with the school Principal and PTA President;
- Planning membership meeting agendas with the President;
- Preparing for the President position in year two;
- Meeting other parents, learning about STEM and the school district, and having fun!

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## CO-TREASURER (a two-year commitment; position rolls up automatically to Treasurer in year 2)

### The duties of the co-treasurer include:

- Supporting the treasurer role;
- Stands in for treasurer as needed and learns the role within the executive team;
- Attending all executive team and board meetings;
- Performing monthly bank statement reviews;
- Serving as co-chair of the budget committee with the treasurer;
- Serving as chair of the mid-year and year-end financial review committee ensuring these two reviews are completed yearly;
- Participating in and volunteering for school and PTA events.

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## Room Liaisons STILL NEEDED for the following classes!

While school and life looks very different this year, let's work with one another to get through this challenging time. We are all learning and in this together!

Here is the list of teachers who don't have a room liaison yet:

REID
ALEXANDER
WILLIAMSON
GRAVES
IRVINE
PAULSON
PARSLEY

With Respect,

**Don Knutson**

President, PTA [president@stemk8pta.org](mailto:president@stemk8pta.org)

**Colleen Peterson**

Room Parent Coordinator [rooms@stemk8pta.org](mailto:rooms@stemk8pta.org)

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## SHOP AND EARN - RAISE FUNDS FOR STEM

You can support STEM through the shopping you already do!

A full list with links to participating stores is online:

<http://stemk8pta.org/get-involved/shop-earn/>

*Please note that some stores may still list our school as "K-5 STEM"*

	<p><b>Amazon</b> - Use the link below or connect through our school website to Amazon. They send us a check based on the amount you purchase. <a href="http://stemk8pta.org/get-involved/shop-earn/amazon-com/">http://stemk8pta.org/get-involved/shop-earn/amazon-com/</a></p>
	<p><b>Bartell Drugs 'B' Caring Card</b> - Up to 4% of your purchase amount is contributed to our school. Register your 'B' Caring Card in-store, on-line, or call 1-800-931-6258. Once registered, have the cashier swipe your 'B' Caring Card at the checkout or type in your 10-digit phone number.</p>
	<p><b>Box Tops for Education</b> – Use the new Box Tops app to scan your receipt. The app will find participating products purchased at any store and instantly add cash to our school's earnings online.</p>
	<p><b>Shutterfly &amp; Tiny Prints</b> - Use our School Storefront to earn 8% for STEM. <a href="http://stem.shutterflystorefront.com/">http://stem.shutterflystorefront.com/</a></p>
	<p><b>West Seattle Thriftway</b> – 1% of the purchase price of every item you buy is returned to our school. Drop off your West Seattle Thriftway receipts in the donation box in the school office.</p>
	<p><b>Fred Meyer &amp; Kroger</b>– A digital account is needed to participate in Fred Meyer Community Rewards. If you already have a digital account, simply link your Shopper's Card to your account and add STEM.</p>

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Please read below important information from City of Seattle, [Seattle Parks and Recreation](#), about **Teen Learning Hubs**.

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Dear Families,

The City of Seattle has pivoted programs and services many times during the COVID-19 pandemic to ensure that we are supporting communities of color and those who have been historically underserved. Currently we are looking to serve youth who are put at a great disadvantage due to the shift to virtual learning.

We have stood up six teen virtual learning hubs that serve **youth ages 12-18** (Garfield, Miller, Southwest Teen Life, South Lake HS, Meadowbrook, Magnuson, and Bitterlake). This is a **free program** that provides a quiet, safe space to complete their virtual schooling, a healthy meal, access to caring and supportive adults, and opportunity to take part in enrichment activities.

**We need your help getting the word out about this program.**

This program is open to all, but our hope is that you will send this out to your community and networks to reach out to youth who are the furthest from education justice and encourage them to join. Our programs are up and running and we still have space for youth to join.

You will find our flyer attached, translated in several languages. Please share this with your networks, and feel free to reach out to [Damien.hicks@seattle.gov](mailto:Damien.hicks@seattle.gov) if you have any questions or would like to refer a student directly.

Thank you,

Rachel Schulkin

## **Middle School/High School Hubs - 2020-2021 School Year**

- Supports access to Seattle Public Schools virtual learning
- Provides recreational, enrichment and mentoring programs
- In-person support for connectivity and basic academic support
- Breakfast and lunch provided daily
- Participants must bring laptop or tablet
- Participants should bring a refillable water bottle
- Wi-fi available

**Call the community center listed below for more information (interpretation services available):**

Central Seattle	Southwest Seattle	Northeast Seattle	Northwest Seattle	Southeast Seattle
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Garfield Teen Life Center 206 684-4550</li> <li>Miller Community Center 206 684-4753</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Southwest Teen Life Center 206 684-7438</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Meadowbrook Tee Life Center 206 684-7523</li> <li>Magnuson Community Center 206 684-7026</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Bitter Lake Community Center 206 684-7524</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>South Lake High School</li> </ul> <p>Call Garfield or Southwest Teen Life Center listed to the left.</p>

**September 8, 2020 - June 18, 2021**

Sites will be open 8:30am-5:00pm, Monday - Friday

Registration Link:

[http://apm.activecommunities.com/seattle/Activity\\_Search/35444](http://apm.activecommunities.com/seattle/Activity_Search/35444)

**We follow Public Health standards:**

- daily wellness/temperature checks,
- social distancing and room/space occupancy limits,
- regular cleaning and sanitizing, clear policies about illness,
- All staff and children will wear masks.

