



Owl Post

Week of December 14, 2020

Upcoming Events:

December 15th 3PM-6PM | Library Curbside Check-Outs/Returns

December 18th | 1-hour early dismissal

December 21st, 2020 – January 1, 2021 | WINTER BREAK (NO SCHOOL)

January 5th 3PM-6PM | Library Curbside Check-Outs/Returns

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!

To JOIN THE PTA, please use this link:

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

Message from Principal Ostrom:



Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families,

We are entering the week before Winter Break! Time has taken on a surreal quality, with repetitiously similar days trapped in front of a screen (or two or four) passing slowly in stark contrast with the sudden disappearance of weeks at a time. With the appearance of vaccinations and hope on the horizon, even in the midst of a surge, the inklings of returns to in-person schooling are starting to appear. Meeting epidemiology benchmarks and the tremendous planning lift required for a safe return mean that even for primary grades a hybrid model is unlikely until spring at the earliest. In the meantime, some key tips for maintaining your health and sanity: get outside every day, aim for 30 minutes of exercise, practice mindfulness (or journaling, etc.), and get 7-8 hours of sleep.

Due to the complexities of remote learning and increased responsibilities for educators, the deadline for submitting standards marking for elementary report cards was extended. As a result elementary families will be available to view on the Source on December 28. I have attached a PDF with directions for signing up and accessing report cards on the source, and [translations can be accessed by using the Select Language tab at the top of every page on the SPS website at this link.](#)

This week we will have the final curbside library before break on Tuesday, 12/15 from 3-6 pm. Come check out some books for the holidays! 3rd graders who haven't picked up their planting packages, and 1st-5th graders who still need their next sets of math workbooks can pick those up at the same time.

Stay healthy, brilliant, and sane,

Ben Ostrom
STEM K-8 Principal

On December 15th at the outdoor Library, there will be a box for Giving Tree donations (Checks & gift cards only please, we cannot accept cash):

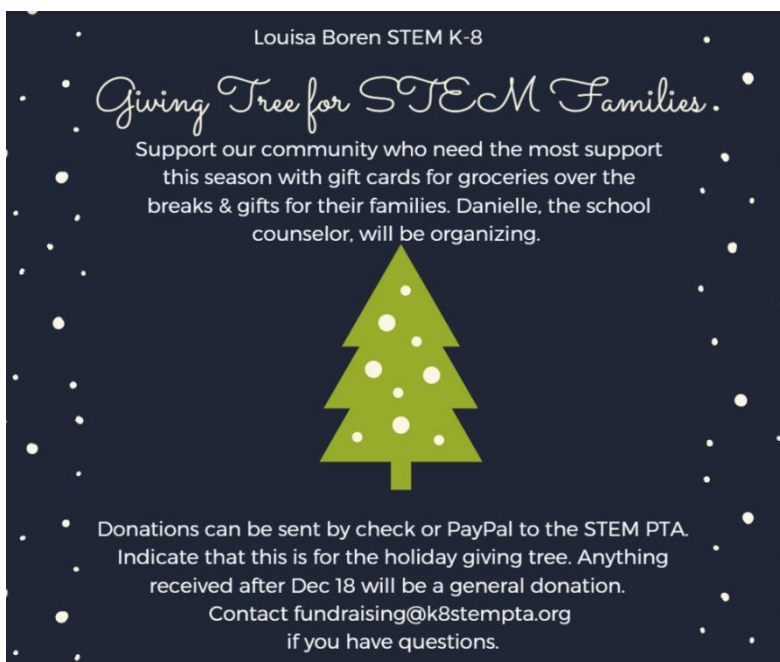
The PTA is asking for anyone who can to donate to support STEM families in the greatest need this season. Every dollar helps. Our school's counselor, Danielle, will be coordinating with families to provide gift cards to cover basic needs as well as to ensure families have a meal to nourish them.

Donations can be made via PayPal or check. For PayPal, there are two options:

- 1) Go to www.paypal.com, enter treasurer@k8stempta.org in the "payto" address, and add "Giving Tree" in the notes to ensure we apply your donation correctly
- 2) Complete your info at <https://stemk8pta.org/giving-tree-donations/> to pay via PayPal. It will automatically direct your donation to the Giving Tree effort.

Please make checks out to "Louisa Boren STEM PTA" and include "Giving Tree" on the note line. You can either mail them to the PTA's attention at school or drop them in the PTA's box that will be available at next Tuesday's outdoor library (12/15 from 3 - 6). You can also purchase gift cards (Target, Safeway, etc) for any value to drop in the box.

Thank you from the entire STEM community for your support. Please contact fundraising@stemk8pta.org or treasurer@k8stempta.org if you have any questions.



Note: there will also be a box on December 15th for you to drop off your Thriftway receipts. 1% of your purchases is donated back to STEM.

From Mrs. B:

What to do over the holiday vacation? Have your students use our STEM Library and read FREE STEM e-books. Thanks to the STEM PTA for providing funds for these books!
READ! READ! READ! READ! READ!

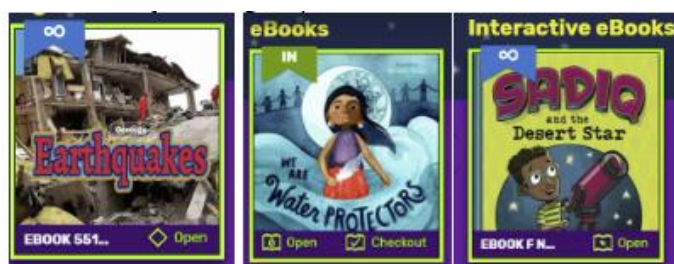
Passwords for STEM Library Resources

STEM Scholars can log into the STEM Library Catalog with their SPS username (without the @seattleschools.org) and their CLEVER password. The K – 2 ipads should have a direct link to Destiny Discover. When prompted select Washington for location and type in Louisa Boren STEM

READING STEM LIBRARY e-BOOKS Online

Once students log into Destiny Discover, they scroll down to the e-books. Some you just click on "OPEN" and others get "checked out"! It depends on the licensing number of copies for each title. Infinity symbol means unlimited access. I would encourage the OPEN before the "Checkout" option as the checkout requires them to then "return" it. Some of our interactive e-books have a special publisher required password, so if prompted

STEM Library Catalog: Capstone Interactive eBooks Site username: **wbb48836Site** password: **follett**



Happy 2021!

Tues., Jan. 5th from 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri. Dec. 18th

Tues., Jan. 19th 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri. Jan. 15th

Tues., Feb. 2nd 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., Jan. 29th.

Tues., Feb. 23rd 3-6 pm. Please have your holds by Fri., Feb. 12th.

Tues., March 9th 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., Mar. 5th.

Tues., March 23rd 3-6 pm. Please place holds by Fri., March 19th.

Tues., April 6th 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., April 2nd.

Tues., April 20th 3 -6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., April 9th.

Tues., May 4th 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., April 30th.

Tues., May 18th 3-6 pm. Please place your holds by Fri., May 14th!

**READ! READ! READ! READ! READ! and
 RESEARCH!**

LGBTQ+ NEWS & Resources:

Hi there, LGBTQ+ Families Dinner Families and Friends!

We wanted to send some love your way along with an event update! This year has been tough for many reasons and that toughness has been punctuated by our inability to convene for our beloved LGBTQ+ Families Dinner event. Know that we miss you all and that we are still dedicated to holding virtual space for our families! With this in mind, we share our new plan with you!

We invite you to our...

LGBTQ+ Families Dinner Series!

This LGBTQ+ Families Dinner Series is a virtual opportunity for people to connect across shared identities and experiences. Each event in the series is specifically intended for the group highlighted by the event. If you belong to more than one group, you are *of course* welcome to come to each event that aligns with your experience.

Here are the events!

01/21 [LGBTQ+ Families of SPS Students](#) – *specifically for LGBTQ+ Families of SPS Students*

02/11 [LGBTQ+ Students and their Families](#) – *specifically for LGBTQ+ Students and their Families*

03/18 [LGBTQ+ Elementary School Students and their Families](#) – *specifically for LGBTQ+ Elementary School Students and their Families*

04/08 [LGBTQ+ SPS Staff and their Families](#) – *specifically for LGBTQ+ SPS Staff*

Agendas

2021 Events

5pm-6pm

5pm Welcome

5:10pm-5:50pm Facilitated Discussion

5:50pm Close Out

Brennon Ham is your host and contact for these events. Feel free to reach out to Brennon if you have any questions.

Brennon Ham (*pronouns: Brennon/they/he/she*)

Health Education Specialist/Trainer, Health Education Department

brham@seattleschools.org

[Health Education Department](#)

Ed.M. Candidate, Education Policy and Management

Harvard Graduate School of Education

Counselor's Corner:

Hi STEM community,

Hope you & your family were able to do find some joy this past week. With the holidays, the days getting shorter and darker, and COVID lingering- this time of year might be particularly hard. We may be used to spending time with loved ones but are unable to this year. This article from ChildMind has some good tips for reducing stress, helping kids cope, and making new traditions during these next few months:

<https://childmind.org/article/holiday-during-the-pandemic/>

For the STEM Counseling Program- I am starting classroom lessons next month on managing anxiety & stress. No doubt useful skills for all ages! We will also be continuing to distribute gift-cards/financial support to families in need. If you would like to be considered- please let me know. We are also collaborating with the PTA if families would like to donate to these holiday funds! Check the Owl Post & PTA Website for more info.

Remember you & your families mental health comes first over all else!

Danielle Blechert

School Counselor

dblechert@seattleschools.org

COVID-19 Community Resources: <https://www.uwkc.org/need-help/covid-19-resources/>

"I believe that all organizing is science fiction- that we are shaping the future we long for and have not yet experienced" -adrienne marie brown

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, 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!

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.

Advocacy Chair / Race & Equity Chair: Please contact Don Knutson, PTA President for more details at: president@stemk8pta.org









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>Amazon - Use the link below or connect through our school website to Amazon. They send us a check based on the amount you purchase. http://stemk8pta.org/get-involved/shop-earn/amazon-com/</p>
	<p>Bartell Drugs 'B' Caring Card - 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>Box Tops for Education – 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>Shutterfly & Tiny Prints - Use our School Storefront to earn 8% for STEM. http://stem.shutterflystorefront.com/</p>
	<p>West Seattle Thriftway – 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>Fred Meyer & Kroger– 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>