



Owl Post

Week of February 1, 2021

Upcoming Events:

February 2nd | 3-6PM STEM Outdoor Library

February 1-12th | Open enrollment period for school choice

February 4th | 6:00-7PM STEM K-8 Middle School Open House

February 5th | PTA Sponsored Black Lives Matter Demonstration (Neighborhood House)

February 11th | 6:30-8PM STEM PTA Meeting

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,



No shortage of school-related events happening!

I shared information last week about School Board actions regarding transportation that could impact Option School busing. The STEM K-8 PTA and others are addressing the issue. [Here is a link to a PTA online petition to express your opinion.](#) I am actively involved and will inform you of any new developments.

This week is the annual national Black Lives Matter (BLM) Week of Action. For STEM K-8, the week occurs within the larger context of the Black Lives Matter Year of Purpose work our Racial Equity Team has been supporting. [The BLM Year of Purpose link is embedded here for more information.](#)

In addition to activities that happen within classrooms, two other BLM events that you may want to get involved with this week are below:

Thursday, Feb. 4, 5:30-7:30pm: *Black Lives Matter at School book forum w/ BLM co-founder Opal Tometi* **Register here:** <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/making-black-lives-matter-from-the-streets-to-the-classroom-tickets-138700714571>

Friday, Feb. 5, 2:30-4:00pm: Socially Distanced STEM K-8 PTA Sponsored Protest. 6400 Sylvan Way SW, Seattle, WA 98126. Outside Neighborhood House. Bring a mask, sign, and your voice.

Also, February 8 is **National African American Parent Involvement Day (NAAPID)**. We are inviting parents and care givers raising Black, African American, or multi-racial children from our STEM community to share things they do as a family. This might include reading a favorite story together, sharing a recipe and cooking a favorite meal, playing a game together, doing a fun project, or anything else you want to share. Please use Flipgrid to record and post an activity or something your family loves to do! <https://flipgrid.com/4dd1f0c1>. The goal is to celebrate STEM K-8 African American families virtually as a part of NAAPID on February 8.

The School Board targeted March 1 as a date for to return to in-person learning for Pre K – 1st graders in Seattle Public Schools. Roughly 50% of families stated an interest to returning to school if it is able to reopen. Planning for a return to in-person learning is underway. However, given current Covid-19 projections, and myriad complications and negotiations to be addressed, March 1 may not be possible. I expect we will hear official communication regarding that target date soon.

Middle School semester one just ended. Staff have a week to complete grading and report cards will be uploaded to the Source and available to middle school families by 2-19.

STEM K-8 5th grade families have an automatic enrollment into our middle school. If you would like attend our Middle School Open House on Thursday, February 4 from 6:00 to 7:00 the link is included here: [STEM K-8 Middle School Open House](#)

Stay healthy, brilliant, and sane,

Ben Ostrom
STEM K-8 Principal

Virtual STEM tours before open enrollment period (Feb 1-12). Please let any families you know who are interested.

Microsoft Teams meeting Links below:

Join on your computer or mobile app.

[Jan 21: 9:00am - 10:00. STEM K-8 Elementary Tour](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 206-800-4125,317513772#](tel:+12068004125317513772) United States, Seattle
Phone Conference ID: 317 513 772#

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Jan 28: 9:00am - 10:00. STEM K-8. Middle School Tour](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 206-800-4125,347525951#](tel:+12068004125347525951) United States, Seattle
Phone Conference ID: 347 525 951#

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Jan 28: 6:00pm-7:00 STEM K-8. Elementary Open House \(Includes Teachers\)](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 206-800-4125,805082460#](tel:+12068004125805082460) United States, Seattle
Phone Conference ID: 805 082 460#

Join on your computer or mobile app

[Feb 4: 6:00pm-7:00 STEM K-8. Middle School Open House \(Includes Teachers\)](#)

Or call in (audio only)

[+1 206-800-4125,215750325#](tel:+12068004125215750325) United States, Seattle
Phone Conference ID: 215 750 325#

SPS Open Enrollment timeline:

- **Online registration for new students** for 2021-22 school year begins: Jan. 4, 2021
 - **Open Enrollment for School Choice:** Feb. 1 - 12, 2021
 - **Open Enrollment results** available online in April
 - **School Choice Window Closes:** May 31, 2020
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Join your teachers, staff and friends this Friday at the STEM PTA Sponsored BLM Demonstration:

What: PTA Sponsored Black Lives Matter Demonstration

The STEM PTA is excited to sponsor a Black Lives Matter demonstration organized by the Black Student Union. STEM BSU would love for families to join us in the conclusion of our BLM week of action. We will be meeting at the highpoint Neighborhood house between 2:30-4:00 to lift an affirmative voice for Black lives. Come with uplifting signs or posters and join us as we celebrate the Black Lives Matter movement. **Be sure to wear a mask and socially distance during this event. Parents are to remain with their children for the whole of the demonstration.**

When: Friday, February 5th, 2:30-4:00pm

Where: In front of Neighborhood House in the highpoint neighborhood, 6400 Sylvan Way SW, Seattle, WA 98126.



NOTE: This week is Black Lives Matter Week of Action at Schools. Throughout the year STEM has been working to follow the Black Lives Matter Year of Purpose:

<https://www.blacklivesmatteratschool.com/year-of-purpose.html>. This week will be a time to re-affirm our commitment to the year of purpose and support events happening across the Puget Sound area and at STEM. **Find attached a calendar with more info at the end of the Owl Post.**

Message from STEM Teachers:

Hello STEM families,

We will be updating you biweekly with information about our school-wide behavior management system (PBIS: Positive Behavior Interventions and Supports) and social-emotional learning.

This week we would like to share more information about our OwlStanding student award. Every month, we focus on one of our STEM expectations (safe, scholarly, respectful/responsible, and compassionate). Teachers will spend some time during the month to discuss our monthly focus in class. At the end of the month, teachers will then nominate students in their class for demonstrating our monthly focus. These students will be awarded our OwlStanding student award. OwlStanding student award winners are announced at our first assembly of the month. Students who are awarded OwlStanding student will receive an award certificate in the mail. This award is a way for us to recognize and encourage expected behavior in class.

This month, we will focus on being **safe**. Here are a few safe behaviors we will discuss in the month of February.

- Using internet safely
- Making safe choices when using the chat function in Teams
- Using materials and supplies safely
- Washing hands and social distancing to keep yourself and others safe
- Asking for help when needed
- Using equipment as intended

On Tuesday, February 2nd, we will recognize and award our STEM Owls for being scholarly!

Counselor's Corner:

Hello STEM Community! Long time, no talk. This is Ms. Danielle- your school counselor. Exciting news: this week I will be starting classroom counseling lessons again (yay!). We'll be talking about my job as a counselor, how we are alike and how we are different, and families.

In addition to this week being Black Lives Matter Week of Action; it's also National School Counseling Week! It is a week to advocate for the role and importance of school counselors. Fun fact: the *American School Counselor Association* says the student to counselor ratio should be 1:250 but at STEM we are at 1:550. We lost a half time counselor (Dana) last year and it's been hard in her absence. I dream of the day we have two counselors at STEM!

Lastly, as a reminder- I am always available to do casual check-ins with students. If interested, here's the form: <https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WNEx1HRgMkiHg1Hqb23SJ9NUm2wtW2FGrn10tKDRFaBUQ1AwOUtWTkc5UTZRRlpGTEtUE9BRDFETS4u>

Take care,

Ms. Danielle (dblechert@seattleschools.org)

Phone #-call: (425)528- 0951

text: (425) 243-7836

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

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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>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>

STEM February BLM Events:

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Monday
<p>Feb 1st BLM Week of Action</p> <p>Resources: Here is a link to help support your students in this week of action & throughout the Year of Purpose: https://www.blacklivesmatteratschool.com/ Ms. Graves will be making some seesaw lessons to share with grade bands through elementary and will send suggested lessons to middle school teacher as links via email.</p> <p>Another resource Ms. Graves created: https://sites.google.com/view/equityresourcesforeducation/home</p>	<p>Feb 2nd BLM Week of Action</p> <p>Elementary Read Aloud When: 11:30-12:30 Where: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ToxmBZ_sS0c&feature=emb_title What: LaTisha Joseph, librarian at Northshore's Woodmoor Elementary, and Ebony Harvey, principal at Northshore's Woodmoor Elementary, will facilitate a read aloud and Q&A for elementary students with the two children's books: "I'm Every Good Thing" by Derrick Barnes and "The Undeclared" by Kwame Alexander.</p>	<p>Feb 3rd BLM Week of Action</p> <p>For the Culture: <u>An Ethnic Studies Documentary</u> When: 6-7pm What: Educator and Student Activist Cece Chan presents her documentary in conversation with NAACP-Youth Council student activists. Come learn about Black Lives Matter At School's demand for Black History and Ethnic Studies Where: https://us02web.zoom.us/join/91234567890</p>	<p>Feb 4th BLM Week of Action</p> <p><u>Black Students United with Michael Bennett</u> When: 11-11:50am What: Michael Bennett, former defensive player for the Seahawks, activist, author, and founder of the Bennett Foundation, will speak about his journey and work, what it means to build community, intersectionality, and what it means for Black lives to matter at school.</p> <p><u>Making Black Lives Matter: From the Streets to the Classroom</u> at When: 12:30-1:30pm What: Join Opal Tometi, Brian Jones, Denisha Jones, Jesse Hagopian and Marshé Doss in conversation about Black Lives Matter and education justice.</p>	<p>Feb 5th BLM Week of Action</p> <p>STEM BLM Protest When: 2:30-4:00 Where: 31st and Sylvan Way, outside of the Neighborhood House. <i>Official address:</i> 6400 Sylvan Way SW, Seattle, WA 98126 What to bring: A MASK, a BLM affirming sign, and your voice.</p> <p>Preparing kids and Families: Please let families know this event is taking place in your weekly emails/communication. Ask families to make signs, remind them this will be a socially distanced event and that they are to remain with their children for the whole of the march.</p>	<p>Feb 8th</p> <p><u>NAAPID (National African American Parent Involvement Day) at STEM</u> What: On this special day, we asked parents, care givers, and adults raising Black, African American, or Mixed children from our STEM community to come be a part of their child's school day. We want to continue this tradition and celebrate virtually!</p> <p>Please share with our STEM community the things you love to do with your family. This could look like reading a favorite story together, sharing a recipe and cooking a favorite meal, playing a game together, doing a fun project, or sharing something that is meaningful to your family.</p> <p>Use Flipgrid to record & post one activity or thing your family loves to do! We can't wait to see all of your posts! https://flipgrid.com/4dd1f0c1</p>