



Owl Post

April 5, 2021

Upcoming Events:

April 5th | First day of in-person learning for K-5

April 6th 5:00-6:00PM | Q&A with Ben re: Middle School return

April 8th 6:00-6:30PM | PTA Membership Meeting (Email secretary@stemk8pta.org for Zoom link)

April 8th 6:30-8PM | PTA General Meeting (Email president@stemk8pta.org for Zoom link)

April 12th-16th | No School – Spring Break

To JOIN THE PTA, please use this link:

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

Message from Principal Ostrom:



Letter from Ben sent 4/4/21:

Louisa Boren STEM K-8 Families,

I'm sending my weekly Owl Post column a day early to reiterate last minute information that may be helpful for Monday. Foremost, we will get through this together! We will support remote-only families, and the new procedures to safely serve Hybrid cohorts will be adjusted and routinized quickly. We will be excited to see children who are able to join us in-person. *It's likely whatever plans we make will need to be adjusted.*

Ten top things to know:

1. SDOT says that parking lot entrance, exit, and load-unload zones will be ready on Monday, 4/5. And that I will get a respite from jackhammers.
2. Middle school students will have asynchronous instruction only Monday-Wednesday while staff prepare for their return on 4/19.
3. School start time is now 8:00am and end time 2:30pm.
 - a. Elementary Hybrid Cohort A is from 8:00am-10:45am.
 - b. Elementary Hybrid Cohort B is from 11:45am-2:30pm.
 - c. We will start supervising drop off 10 minutes before cohort start time.
 - d. **Cohort A should attest by 7:30 am; Cohort B by 11:15 am.**
 - i. **If you don't receive an email or text, you can use [the attestation linked here](#).**
 - ii. You must complete a separate attestation for each student.
4. All students must wear masks; STEM K-8 will provide them for any child who needs one.
5. Parents will pick up and drop off students at the south playground, either parking and walking or from a drop-off/pick-up car line.
 - a. **Staff will confirm attestation before you leave your child.**
 - b. Students will wait in socially-distanced class lines on the playground until cohort start time when they will be walked in by teachers.
 - c. Parents will wait outside the playground gates; there are 6 feet and 3 feet social distance markings (as noted by the CDC and WA State, 3 feet is considered a safe distance for people wearing masks, students in school will practice 6 feet per SPS agreements and procedures). Your child will either be brought out or walk to you.
 - d. **This will take a while at first, but will become routine and way more efficient.**
 - e. If you attest by 7:30am or 11:15am it will be quicker!
6. **Per SPS Covid Policy parents are not allowed in buildings.** Because of the Boren entryway design, we were granted permission for up to 4 people to wait in the foyer

outside the main office (and glass hall doors) . If you see 4 people waiting inside cue up outside the south doors.

- a. More information about [Seattle Public Schools Covid Procedures is linked here.](#)
7. Students opting for a return to in Person learning need to return the linked **Covid 19 Informed Consent and Family Information** before their child starts. You can bring it to school, or scan, sign, and email return, or type in name, attach, and send an email saying you agree to jahapgood@seattleschools.org (sorry Jody's email address on Saturday was missing a letter).
 - a. **COVID-19 Informed Consent and Family Information**
 - i. [English Informed Consent](#)
 - ii. [Amharic Informed Consent](#)
 - iii. [Somali Informed Consent](#)
 - iv. [Spanish Informed Consent](#)
 - v. [Vietnamese Informed Consent](#)
 - viii. Grab and go lunch and breakfast packages will be available for free to all students who need one on their way out of the building, regardless of free and reduced lunch status. Both are provided to be eaten before coming to school/after getting home.
 - ix. I will host a Question and Answer (Q&A) session for Middle School families trying to choose between a hybrid or fully remote model. A preference survey was emailed on Friday and is due Tuesday, 4/6 at 11:59pm. Non-responses default to full-time remote. The meeting will be on **Tuesday, April 6 from 5:00-6:00 pm**. The link is below.

[Middle School In-Person Learning Q and A Teams Meeting Link](#)

Or call in (audio only) [+1 206-800-4125,,309165174#](tel:+12068004125309165174)

Phone Conference ID: 309 165 174#

10. We love your children!

It's likely whatever plans we make will need to be adjusted. I have attached translated versions of the questions and answers from last Thursday's In-Person meetings to this email.

[Somali Return to In Person learning QA April2021.en.so.docx](#)

[Spanish Return to In Person learning QA April2021.en.es.docx](#)

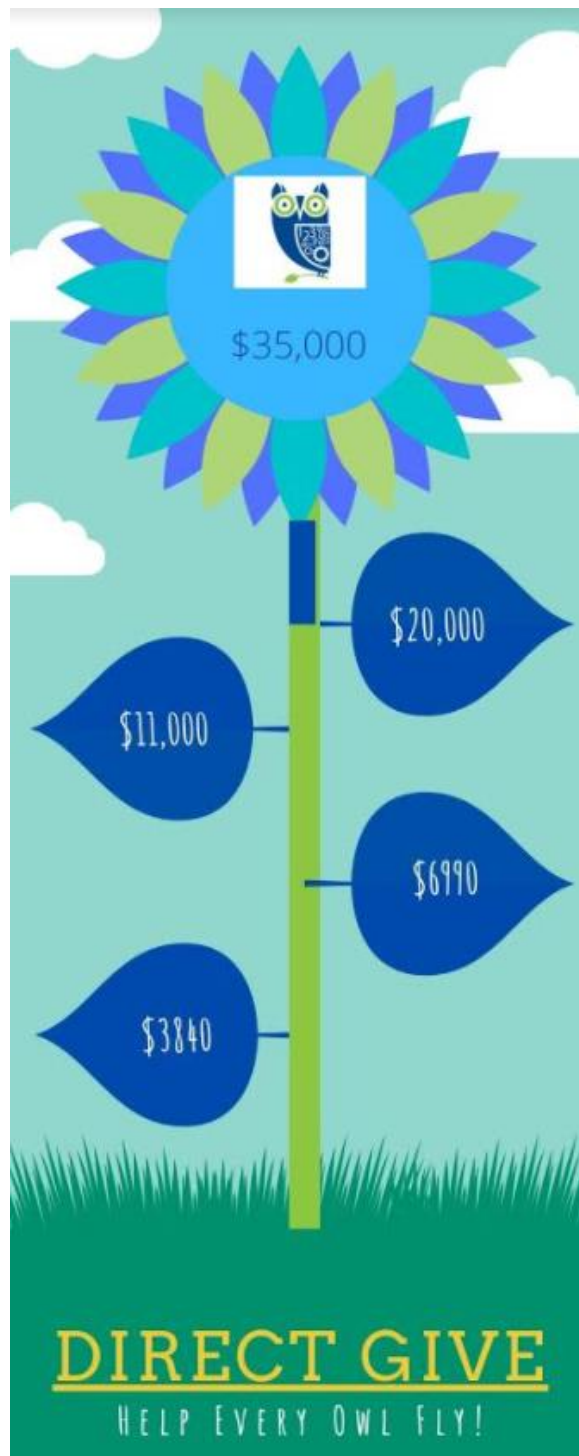
[Return to In Person learning QA April2021.docx](#)

Stay healthy, brilliant, and sane,

Ben Ostrom
STEM K-8 Principal

There is a lot of uncertainty about school right now. But one thing is certain. When the kids do go back next year, we will need money in the budget for PBL, field trips, salmon tanks, Pi Night, the Race and Equity Team, teacher development, and the BIGGEST BACK TO SCHOOL BASH EVER!! **Please, if you haven't already done so, donate to the Direct Give Campaign.**

Link to STEM Direct Give Campaign: <https://stem8pta.org/get-involved/direct-give-donation/>



Please join the PTA on April 8th!!!!

STEM needs YOU! Join your PTA leaders April 8th at 6pm to learn more about running for the Board! Then, please stick around for the Membership Meeting at 6:30pm! Email secretary@stemk8pta.org for Zoom link!

Our annual election includes President, Vice President, Secretary, Treasurer & Co-Treasurer! Join us to give back and keep our school strong.

VOLUNTEER WITH YOUR STEM K-8 PTA BOARD!

ZOOM Q&A - 6PM APRIL 8

- Meet other parents
- Do cool projects
- Give back!



E-mail for the Zoom link:
secretary@stemk8pta.org



Library News!

WOW! It took 2 hours and lots of librarians to do a Regional Global Reading Challenge Final!!!

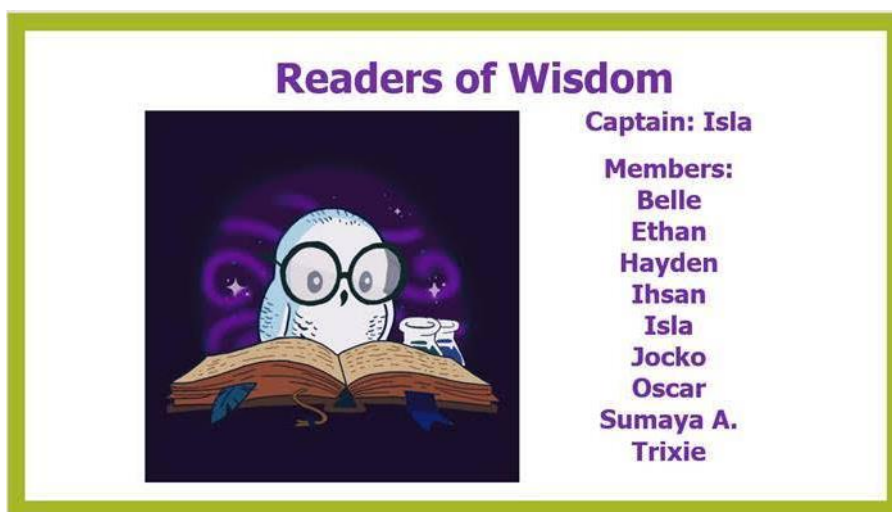
Congratulations to our READERS OF WISDOM team that took 2nd place!

So proud of their collaboration, good sportsmanship, teamwork and model manners!

It was an historic event! Some of the teams was the last SPL live semi-final before closure and now they participated in the Regional final before some return to school next week!

Mrs. B. CELEBRATES the **READERS OF WISDOM!!!!** xxooxx

READ! And have FUN! READ! And have FUN! READ! And have FUN!



STEM Outdoor Library Dates for Spring 2021

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!

Counselor's Corner:

Hi STEM Community,

Whew. What a year this has been. Here we are with yet another transition/change. It's a lot. I often think, "If I as a counselor, an adult with many coping skills in my toolbox, am struggling with this- I can't imagine how hard it must be for kids". We must hold, acknowledge and feel all the complex feelings we are feeling with this transition to hybrid learning. Excitement, sadness, grief, anxiety, indifference, worry. It's all valid.

Periods of change and transition can be challenging. Here are a few strategies from [Sound Discipline](#) to try while supporting your student or family:

1. Ask your child to identify and name their feelings.
2. Ask your child, what are their "what ifs?" They may be having questions or worries around logistics and having the opportunity to ask questions may help ease their mind.
3. Give grace. Transitions are hard. This is a great time to practice empathy and compassion.
4. For students that are going to be participating in in-person learning, putting a small token or reminder of home in your child's backpack may be comforting.
5. Talking through daily routines can be comforting and regulating.
6. Simplify your child's schedule outside of school.
7. Let go of expectations of what things "should" be like and acknowledge that things may feel hard.
8. Try this [art activity](#) on having resilience through transitions.

[This](#) article is also helpful and includes some COVID specific considerations for returning to in-person learning. If your family is staying remote- your child might be grieving the loss of a teacher and/or classmates. Writing goodbye letters, spending time reflecting on their time together, and/or doing one of [these](#) activities might be helpful.

Regardless, we're all still apart of the STEM Community and will protect, love and support each other no matter what.

Take care,

Danielle Blechert

dblechert@seattleschools.org

call: (425)528- 0951

text: (425) 243-7836

If you'd like to meet with Danielle, please fill out this form:

<https://forms.office.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=WNEEx1HRgMkiHg1Hqb23SJ9NUm2wtW2FGrn10tKDRFaBUQ1AwOUtWTkc5UTZRRlpGTEtUE9BRDFETS4u>

Don't forget to check out the STEM Gazette!

<https://stemgazette2020.wixsite.com/mysite>

FREE RIDES TO LYFTUP SCHOOL COMMUNITIES:

Aetna is offering free Lyft Ride codes for Seattle School Families to Access Meals and Resources During the Covid-19 Crisis.

Fill out this form to request your code that is worth \$20 and good for 60 days:

<https://forms.microsoft.com/Pages/ResponsePage.aspx?id=CC2TAN0Nr0S3AMPAVJ5OaO-t0nW9rXVCm5SFK9R7S-1UM05JWTIQRDA5MTVSTE5CQVo2MFZHREdNNy4u>



ARE PARTNERING UP TO OFFER

**FREE RIDES TO LYFTUP
SCHOOL COMMUNITIES**

Contact your local school district to learn more









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>