



Owl Post

School Newsletter | September 7, 2021

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Upcoming Events:

Thursday Sept. 9 8:55 AM – 3:25 PM Kinders and Pre-School First Day

Thursday Sept. 9 6:30 – 8:00 PM PTA Meeting online via Zoom

Friday Sept. 10 5:00 – 7:00 PM Back 2 School Bash, Lincoln Park

Message from Principal Ben Ostrom:

It was a full, tiring, and inspiring week! I saw students who hadn't been in school buildings in 18 months. In classrooms across STEM, teachers discussed with students how they wanted to feel and made agreements together as they created classroom charters. Teachers and students worked together to create new patterns for seating and movement in the building to maximize social distance. We are making this happen! Challenges will arise but we can handle them together.



Important information heading into our second full week.

Bell Times:

- School starts at 8:55 AM and ends at 3:25 PM
- Kindergarten and Preschool start Sept. 9
- Supervision starts at 8:45am; for students eating breakfast the cafeteria is open at 8:35 AM.
- School breakfast and lunch are free for all students.
- Wednesday, September 8 is our first Early Release day. Students get out at 2:10 pm.

Outdoor Lunch: We will work this week to add an outdoor lunch option. STEM K-8 is not depending upon outdoor lunches to support Covid-19 safety; our cafeteria has socially distanced seating at between 1/3rd and 2/3rds of pre-Covid-19 capacity.



Devices: We are working to distribute devices to all of our students, starting with Middle Schoolers first. SPS is collecting a \$25 device fee to help repair and replace broken devices. Families who qualify for free and reduced lunch are not expected to pay. Payment can be made by check, made out to Seattle Public Schools and write "device fee" in the note section; or online via School Pay. [Directions to use School Pay are linked here.](#)

-To receive a device, students need:

- a) to have returned their device last year, or if they kept it over the summer and it works, let their teacher know they are going to continue using it (recommended)
- b) to give their homeroom teacher a parent and student signed copy of the [Student 1:1 Laptop Device Agreement](#). Translations can be found at [translated device agreements](#).



Required School Forms: We must receive completed forms for all students:

1. Emergency Information and Student Release
2. Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)
3. If you might qualify for free and reduced price lunch, please return the [Free and Reduced lunch application](#), even though lunch is free for all students, as it plays a significant role in the funding STEM K8 receives.

Forms, Continued:

All forms can be completed electronically using instructions below. If you have any questions, or need a printed copy, please reach out to the office at 206-252-8450.

- a) Go to <https://www.seattleschools.org/news/start-of-school-forms/>.
- b) Find the Emergency Information & Student Release, FERPA and Free and Reduced Lunch applications. [Translations are available for all forms.](#)
- c) Save the form to your desktop or computer. Open the form on your desktop and fill it out. Save it again.
- d) Email the forms to borenk8stem@seattleschools.org.



PTA Meeting Thursday:

Everyone is invited to attend the first PTA meeting of the year on Thursday, September 9 from 6:30-8:00 PM online via Zoom. Reach out to PTA Vice President Kate Moore at vp@stemk8pta.org to receive the Zoom meeting link.

**Stay healthy, brilliant, and sane,
Ben Ostrom, STEM K-8 Principal**

School Supplies

As in years past, Louisa Boren STEM K8 does not send home school supplies lists. We ask families to provide a backpack, water bottle, and if possible \$50 contribution for school supplies.

This contribution is not required, but your generosity ensures that all students receive the same grade-appropriate school supplies, regardless of each student's ability to contribute.



If you can, please consider giving a little extra to cover students who cannot contribute. Payments can be made by check written to Louisa Boren STEM K8, or online via School Pay. [Directions to use School Pay are linked here.](#)

Thank you!

Partner with Louisa Boren STEM K8 to help all students thrive!

Your student and their classmates need you to partner with their teachers, principal and all school staff to make Louisa Boren STEM K8 a thriving educational experience.

Celebrate student achievements, build community, promote racial equity, influence the school district and state legislature, and much more when you join the Parent-Teacher Association (PTA).



PTA Meeting Thursday

Everyone is invited to attend PTA Meetings, held the second Thursday evening of each month. For now, meetings will be held via Zoom. Due to “zoombombing” last year, the Zoom link is only shared to registered PTA members or those who request to join the meeting by emailing PTA Vice Pres. Kate Moore at vp@stemk8pta.org. Join our first meeting of the school year **this Thursday**, Sept. 9 from 6:30 – 8:00 PM.

Become a PTA Member

Join the PTA at no cost at <https://tinyurl.com/stemptamembership>. In an effort to reduce barriers to membership, there is no fee to become a PTA member. Please complete the form at the link above to be reminded of all PTA meetings and support our thriving school.

Back 2 School Bash Friday

All families are invited to the Back 2 School Bash hosted by the PTA. Join us **this Friday**, Sept. 10 from 5-7 PM at Lincoln Park Shelter #5 near the North play area and wading pool. The PTA will provide individually-wrapped snacks. Masks required. We are excited to kick off the school year with you!

Keep in Touch

There are multiple ways to stay in-the-know; pick the one that works best for you!

[Facebook](#)

[Twitter](#)

[Instagram](#)

[Website](#)

