

**Louisa Boren STEM K-8 PTA General Meeting Agenda**  
**Thursday February 10, 2022 6:30-8:00 PM**

Attendees: Kate Moore, Kate Bennett, Alicia Every, Cindy Heidelberg, Margo Bergman, Parker \_\_\_\_\_, Hannah Tracy, Shawna Murphy, Caitlin Huertes, Jess Andre, Trey Sanders, Ellie Robinson, Jane Altemose, Bray Hayden, Angela \_\_\_\_, Erika Whinihan, Lauren Brohawn, Adrienne \_\_\_\_\_

**1) Call Meeting to Order (Alicia Every) - 2 Minutes**

- a. Land acknowledgement: The Louisa Boren STEM K8 PTA acknowledges that we are on the traditional land of the first people of Seattle, the Duwamish People past and present, and honor with gratitude the land itself and the Duwamish Tribe.

**2) Community Check-In (Alicia Every)- 5 minutes**

- a. Student Presentation: Tether Ball Update – postponed until next month
- b. Suicide Prevention and Awareness Presentation (Danielle Blechert) - 20 minutes – postponed until next month
  - i. Goal: publicize!

**3) Principal's Update (Ben Ostrom) - 20 minutes**

- a. Tours ongoing
  - i. Ben has been finding and seeing so many elements of our school's mission while going around to the rooms during the tours
- b. PBL exhibition
  - i. Hard to gather artwork to show digitally but seeing so much amazing work
- c. Budget
  - i. Projected enrollment next year will be under 500. Last cohort of 3 8<sup>th</sup> grade classes ends this year.
  - ii. This will have significant impacts on the budget. (500 is a threshold for funding for K-8s)
    - 1. E.g. will decrease counseling FTE. Will lose a teacher associated with the middle school cohort we're losing.
    - 2. Might have to make hard choices about things we've had before (e.g. have been able to subsidize bands)
  - iii. STEM always tries to make difficult choices based on our priorities and what families at STEM care about it.
  - iv. PTA board members will be able to attend budget meetings to be able to pass information on to families
- d. New gym teacher- Mr. G – long term substitute. West Seattle native!
- e. Q&A:
  - i. Question about outdoor lunch – has it been closed sometimes? Will that be a regular thing?

1. It was closed for a bit because the 8<sup>th</sup> graders were making a huge mess (issue for birds and vermin). Had to work with them to clean up messes to reopen.
- ii. 2nd grade was running out of specific lunches?
  1. Will try to remedy this – adjust across classes, or alternate second and first graders as they go into the cafeteria so the same kids aren't having the experience every day
- iii. N-95's still available for teachers?
  1. Yes, for teachers who want/need them.
  2. Will be getting some smaller ones and will make them available for kids when they come in

**4) Approval of Meeting Minutes from 12/9/2021 – 2 minutes**

- a. Approved by a quorum.

**5) Fundraising hiatus update – Alicia Every – 2 minutes**

- a. Alicia Every – suspending major fundraising activities for the rest of the year to not further press volunteers and families during this really hard period. Have a budget surplus and the things we need to do this year are funded.

**6) Approval of 990 (tax document from last year) – Jess Andre – 2 minutes**

- a. Yay!

**7) Black Lives Matter at school**

- a. 3/5 rally outside STEM
- b. PTA is funding buying BLM tshirts for all staff and teachers. Will also be for sale for families
- c. Need volunteers to hand out stickers

**8) Committee Updates - 18 minutes**

- a. Treasurer (Trey Sanders)- 3 minutes
  - i. Budget updates
- b. Fundraising (Margo Bergman) – 5 minutes
  - i. Art Raffle - **May 5**
    1. Culmination of community week
    2. Both local artists (grownups) and STEM student art
  - ii. Community Week – STEM Connects - **May 2-5**
    1. Wetlands moments, teacher appreciation, UW graduate-filled hands-on science event
- c. Communications (Caitlin Huertas)– 3 minutes
  - i. Training volunteers
  - ii. Teacher appreciation for Valentine's Day
- d. Race and Equity (Hannah and Ellie) - 3 minutes
  - i. Career Day - lots of volunteers
  - ii. Working on a parent-teacher education seminar in the spring

- e. GGLOW (Shawna Murphy) - 3 minutes
  - i. Pride Event again this year – probably Friday, June 3
    - 1. Not sure if it will be at school; depends on covid restrictions
- f. Parking Lot Update (Caitlin Huertas) - 5 minutes
  - i. Safety issues. Trying to enhance safety and speed up the pickup.
  - ii. Partway through the approval process.

**9) Health/COVID update (Kate Bennett) – 3 minutes**

- a. Numbers are looking good.
- b. Ben: approximately 70% of STEM students are vaccinated.

**10) Open Discussion/New Business (Alicia Every) - 5 minutes**

- a. Q&A with Ben for prospective families - Volunteers Needed
- b. Budget Committee
- c. Nominating Committee
- d. SPED Chair needed
- e. Advocacy Chair needed