

# Stevens Speak

★ THE STEVENS COMMUNITY NEWSLETTER ★

## UPCOMING EVENTS



1242 18th Ave E  
Seattle, WA 98112

April 5, 2017

## From The Principal

During the month of March our staff has begun rolling out some changes in how we are working with students who are dealing with conflict, following expectations, or even just struggling with something in their life that is impacting them emotionally. Our goal is to use these experiences to teach students strategies and skills to empower them to work through these challenging situations in a positive more constructive way. I'm hoping to spend some time on this during our next PTA meeting. There are three things I wanted to share about what we are doing:

First, You will probably be experiencing more interaction with your children's teachers about behaviors in general. This does not necessarily represent an escalation of your students, but more of an effort by our staff to engage students into conversations designed to strengthen their skills around problem solving, emotional regulation and following our school expectations around behavior.

Second, Our [NEW blueprint form](#): Laura Betz, our school counselor introduced to you in our recent [March 15th Stevens Speak](#). We encourage our families to use this blueprint form at home as well. Going through this form with your kids can help facilitate conversations and opportunities teach your children through experiences they are having. You can even use them to talk about characters from stories/books they are reading.

Third, Our NEW Voice Levels: In an effort to help our students learn about what the appropriate volume is for them to speak, we have introduced schoolwide voice levels. Having consistent expectations for our whole school will help our students to learn the appropriate volume in different places and situations. This is not just about quieting down at times; but many of our students are learning to speak up at times as well. Both are important.

Level 4: Outside Voice

Level 3: Teacher Voice (talking to the whole class, making a presentation, answering a question in class)

Level 2: Group Voice (talking with a small group)

Level 1: Whisper Voice (talking quietly to one other person)

Level 0: No Voice/Talking (We call this "quiet Coyote." Ask your kids what the signal is.)

We have turned another corner with this week marking the beginning of the 3rd trimester and spring break being just a couple of days ahead of us. The colder weather and rain are beginning to give way to warmer weather and glimpses of the sun. So many kids and staff have been fighting illness, including myself. My sense is we are all ready for a break as we look ahead to our final 10-weeks before summer. I wish all of you a great week of rest, fun, family and friends. Enjoy!

*Dr. Brian K. Fitch, Principal*

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## Library News:

### Check it out! ✓

#### Author Visit

Kevin Emerson visited the Stevens Tuesday. He shared the story of how he came to be an author. He shared his love of science. Then he shared a bit of the story of his newest book. Of course, he stopped at an exciting spot! Students in 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup> grades had many questions.



It is not too late to order a signed copy of Mr. Emerson's newest book, ***Last Day On Mars***. Order forms are in the office.

I will collect forms through April 28. Copies were purchased for the school library, and Seattle Public Library has copies as well, so everyone will be able to find out what happens to Liam and Phoebe on their last day on Mars!

## Washington Children's Choice Picture Book Award

All students in Kindergarten – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade have now voted for their favorite book from the W.C.C.P.B.A. nominees. Results will be shared after Spring Break. We will soon learn which book has earned the 2017 S.P.O.T.T.E.E.\* Award!

\*Stevens Picks One Title To Enthusiastically Endorse



## Opportunity for students to nominate Washington's Best Teacher

Ivar's and Kidd Valley Restaurants are asking all kindergarten through eighth grade students to nominate their favorite teacher for a chance to take home the 2017 Teacher of the Year honors. Ivar's and Kidd Valley encourages students to recognize and praise educators who have positively impacted them, and to share inspirational stories with other students and teachers. Two well-deserving educators will be selected as grand prize recipients to bring home a \$500 gift card for classroom supplies, a commemorative plaque and the official title of either Ivar's Teacher of the Year or Kidd Valley Teacher of the Year. Plus, the nominating students of the grand prize winners will receive either an Ivar's Kids Meal – including a visit by Ivar's famous Dancing Clam – or a Kidd Valley Kids Meal for every student in their class. To nominate a teacher, students 14 years old or younger may visit select Puget Sound area Ivar's or Kidd Valley locations (excluding stadiums, airport and Eastern Washington restaurants) to complete an official entry form, or go online to [www.lvars.com/teacher](http://www.lvars.com/teacher) or [www.kiddvalley.com/promos-events.htm](http://www.kiddvalley.com/promos-events.htm). All entries must be received by May 19, 2017.

Seattle Public Schools, SPS, provides Equal Educational Opportunities and Equal Employment Opportunities and does not discriminate in any programs or activities on the basis of sex; race; creed; color; religion; ancestry; national origin; age; economic status; sexual orientation, including gender expression or identity; pregnancy; marital status; physical appearance; the presence of any sensory, mental or physical disability; honorably discharged veteran or military status; or the use of a trained dog guide or service animal. SPS also provides equal access to the Boy Scouts and other designated youth groups.

For students and members of the public, the following employees have been designated to handle questions and complaints of alleged discrimination: Office of Student Civil Rights, (206) 252-0306, or [oscr@seattleschools.org](mailto:oscr@seattleschools.org), or by mail at Seattle Public Schools, MS 32-149, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1166. In that department:

- For sex discrimination concerns, including sexual harassment, contact: Title IX Grievance Coordinator, (206) 252-0367, or [Title.IX@seattleschools.org](mailto:Title.IX@seattleschools.org)
- For disability discrimination concerns contact: ADA/Section 504 Grievance Coordinator, (206) 252-0178, or [accessibility@seattleschools.org](mailto:accessibility@seattleschools.org)

For employee questions about or requests for disability related accommodations and/or complaints of alleged discrimination, including sexual harassment, contact: Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources, Seattle Public Schools, Mailstop 33-157, P.O. Box 34165, Seattle, WA 98124-1166, (206) 252-0024, or [hreeoc@seattleschools.org](mailto:hreeoc@seattleschools.org).

## From the PTA: Stevens Calendar

Check the Stevens Calendar for events and early release days. <http://stevens.seattleschools.org/calendar>

### Important Dates from PTA:

April 7 – LAST DAY of After School Enrichment Winter Session

April 17 – FIRST DAY of After School Enrichment SPRING Session

April 18 all day - Meet the Moon Café Dine Out Fundraiser

April 29 or 30 TBD - PTA Budget Committee Meeting

May 4 – Multicultural Night (moved from April 6)

May 21<sup>st</sup> 4pm - Seattle Storm Stevens Elementary Day, 4pm

May 23<sup>rd</sup> 6:30pm - Last General PTA mtg (vote on Budget/new Board members)

June 9 - Carnival

June 23—5th Grade Graduation

### Tutu's Pantry Food Donations

**THIS WEEK April 3-7: First Grade families** please donate food items – especially canned soup, mac & cheese, pasta.

Spring Break: We will be sending home big bags of food for our Tutu's Backpack Families this Friday.

Week of April 17 (after Spring Break): Fourth Grade

### PTA Budget Committee Meeting

Be part of the the committee that proposes how to allocate PTA funds for the next two years. This is a **half-day meeting on Sat Apr 29 or Sun Apr 30** (TBC). Budget is then presented for a vote to the General PTA on May 23. Contact [info@stevenspta.org](mailto:info@stevenspta.org) if you're interested in attending the Budget Committee mtg. You can also send questions/input ahead of this time if you have ideas, but are unable to attend the meeting.

### VOLUNTEER CORNER

Thank you to those who are starting to step up for next year's open Board positions, but we still have some crucial spots to fill. Please contact the Nominating Committee through Barak Gaster, [barakg@uw.edu](mailto:barakg@uw.edu) or [info@stevenspta.org](mailto:info@stevenspta.org). We have only 6 Board Mtgs per year.



#### Critical Needs PTA BOARD

**Fundraising** > Team effort, with great systems in place, but we need both big-picture coordinator, and folks willing to help with individual campaign execution (Fall Annual Fund, Spring Auction, small event fundraisers).

**Communications** > Are you a writer? Editor? Emailer? Graphic Designer? Marketing Strategist? Any/all skills welcome.

**Treasurer** > Happy place is numbers, spread sheets, accounting. We want YOU!

#### Carnival

Spring cleaning over Spring Break?

We'll gladly accept all clean, gently loved, non-broken kids' items to turn into CARNIVAL PRIZES: Small toys, board games, stuffies, bikes, scooters, electronics - you name it, we WANT IT! We can also take BOOKS which we'll redistribute at our summer reading book giveaway in June.

Drop items off in the carnival donation boxes located in Stevens front entry hallway. And if you'd like to help SORT incoming items after Spring Break, contact [carnival@stevenspta.org](mailto:carnival@stevenspta.org).

Thank you, Stevens PTA

## Stevens Elementary PTA Upcoming Fundraisers

**Meet the Moon Cafe** - Dine out on **Tuesday, April 18<sup>th</sup>** any time between 8am-9pm. Tell your server that you're there from Stevens Elementary and 10% of your bill will come back to Stevens PTA! Located at: 120 Lakeside Ave, Seattle, WA 98122.

## Stevens Elementary PTA Seattle Storm Game - Sunday, May 21<sup>st</sup>, 4pm

Gather your friends and buy tickets NOW for Seattle Storm Women's Basketball game at Key Arena. <http://seattlestormbasketball.com/ticketcentral/stormyourschool.html#/> - use promo code: **STEVENS17** A portion of each ticket sold will come back to help fund Stevens programs.

## Stevens After-school Enrichment Classes via Miller community Center

The last day for Winter Session is this Friday, April 7th.

Spring Session begins Monday, April 17th through Thursday, June 15th.

**A NEW CLASS:** Wednesday's **Martial Arts & Self Defense** for ages 8-11 did not make it into the take-home catalog. There are 11 spots available! Here are the details:

### **Martial Arts & Self Defense #165097 – Grades 3-5**

In a safe, stimulating, and fun environment, students are immersed in the eclectic martial art of Kajukenbo Kung Fu. Our staff of dedicated, energetic instructors are advanced martial artists at Fusion Kung Fu and experienced educators who provide quality instruction on basic Kajukenbo techniques, including strikes, blocks, forms, partner work, and board-breaking, as well as mindfulness, team-building, and collaboration skills. Through games and engaging activities, students also learn important self-defense tools that can support them to feel safer, more confident interrupting bullying and violence, and better able to respond to challenges they face in and out of school.

Program Provided by Mollie Wolf

Spots are still available in:

#### Monday

**French #165079 (K-5)**

**Fun with Food #165086 (K-2)**

#### Tuesday

**Art with Willow #165076 (3-5) 2:15-3:15** Unfortunately we cannot make any exceptions if your child is under the age of 8 for this session, but Session 2 #165089 from 3:30-4:30 is open to grades 1-4.

**Gym Games #165087 (2-5)**

#### Wednesday

**Cooking #165078 (2-5)**

**Spanish #165084 (K-5)**

**Jewelry Making #165080 (2-5)**

#### Thursday

**Nature Science #165083 (1-4)**

**Yoga #165085 (K-3)**

You can register via SPARC online <https://class.seattle.gov/parks/Start/Start.asp> or at Miller community center in person – 330 19<sup>th</sup> Ave E.



One day only "DINE OUT" FUNDRAISER For  
Stevens Elementary at MEET THE MOON in Leschi



*Simply tell your server that you are there for the Stevens "Dine Out" fundraiser and 10% of your purchase comes right back to Stevens! Good all day long! Questions? Please contact Diane Stoebe [info@stevenspta.org](mailto:info@stevenspta.org)*



8am to 9pm! Breakfast, Lunch, Dinner and Drinks  
April 18, 2017

120 Lakeside Ave, Seattle 206-707-9730