



September 3, 2013

Jose Banda
Office of the Superintendent,
MS: 32-150,
P.O. Box 34165,
Seattle, WA 98124-1165

RE: K-5 STEM at Boren

Dear Mr. Banda,

We are writing on behalf of the North Delridge neighborhood in support of maintaining the K-5 STEM program at Boren School. The North Delridge Neighborhood Council is a community-based volunteer organization that serves the neighborhood in which the Boren School is located.

Delridge as a neighborhood has felt the negative effects of having the Boren School used as a transitional and temporary school for many long years. It has been a pleasure to see the students, parents, and staff of the STEM school begin to "take ownership" of the building and grounds in a really positive way.

Prior to the K-5 STEM program, the impact on the neighborhood was mostly negative. We experienced the blight of an empty building - attracting vandalism and unsavory activity - as well as the lack of connection and care that only a permanent school community can provide. When a school was only in the building temporarily, there was not the same desire to care for the facility or to become part of the neighborhood. In the short time that the STEM program has been located at Boren, they have worked to improve the playground and implemented traffic calming signage along Delridge Way SW.


We ask you to reconsider your plans to relocate the K-5 STEM program away from the Boren School. The Boren building is centrally located and has the capacity to meet the huge demand for the STEM curriculum, as well as to grow to a K-8 program if desired. To keep the STEM program at Boren would provide needed stability for the students, as well as for the surrounding neighborhood.

Kirsten Smith, Co-Chair · Parie Hines, Co-Chair
Rafael Garcia, Secretary · Patrick Baer, Treasurer
4408 Delridge Way S.W. · Seattle, Washington 98106
contact@ndnc.org · www.ndnc.org



Thank you for your consideration. Please do not hesitate to contact us should you have any questions. We would welcome you and any school district staff or board members at an NDNC meeting.

Sincerely,



Paric Hines, Co-Chair



Kirsten Smith, Co-Chair

CC:

Terry Burgess
Sherry Carr
Michael DeBell
Tracy Libros
Harium Martin-Morris
Pegi McEvoy
Marty McLaren
Luci Morello
Sharon Peaslee
Betty Patu
Kay Smith-Blum
Michael Tolley
Israel Vela

West Seattle Blog
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