

# STEM School Board of Directors Meeting

January 16, 2018  
5:30pm – 7:30pm  
The SYNK  
Middle School Main Hallway

8773 Ridgeline Blvd. | Highlands Ranch, CO | 80129

## MINUTES

### I. Call to Order

#### i Roll Call

- Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM
- Directors present: Mark Alpert, Tracy Scroggins, Jeff Berg, Roy Martinez, Thomas Wendling, Nicole Smith, Adam Roderick
- Directors absent: Rudy Lukez
- Other attendees: Penny Eucker, Leanne Weyman, Karen Johnson, Cody Blackburn, SAC representative, roughly 10 parents, three students

#### ii Pledge of Allegiance

- Mark Alpert initiated.

### II. Reciting of the Mission Statement

- Tracy Scroggins recited the mission statement.

### III. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes

- Roy Martinez motioned to approve
- Tracy Scroggins seconded
- All in attendance approved

### IV. Executive Director's report

- Prior to the Executive Directors report a three-member student team presented results of a Simple Solutions project titled "The Tremendous Track" touting student wellness and an opportunity toward improved community relations with indicated initial costs of \$40K to \$60K and \$5K annual maintenance costs. Mark Alpert suggested further investigation of the concept in conjunction with the facilities master plan.

#### i Recent accomplishments and events

#### ii Budget report

#### iii Enrollment status and projections

#### iv Financial status and projections

- See attached power point slides
- Roy Martinez inquired about the tour for the cyber security representatives. Discussion on possible networking opportunities including internships and/or apprenticeships ensued.

**V. SAC update**

- No significant updates since last SAC meeting in November.
- Next SAC meeting 1/18/18.

**VI. STEM PTO update**

- No report.

**VII. Privacy and Protection of Confidential Student Information Policy**

- Mark Alpert stressed the importance of policy.
- Roy Martinez motioned to approve the policy.
- Tom Wendling seconded.
- All in attendance approved.

**VIII. Strategic Plan**

- After Mark Alpert publicly presented the Three-Year Strategic Plan, the Board unanimously adopted the plan. The Board exuded enthusiasm and energy for the focus and direction established by the plan and committed to following a formal communication process to disseminate the plan, provide information on progress, and establish feedback channels.

**IX. 2018-2019 Academic Calendar**

- Tom Wendling motioned to approve the 2018-2019 Academic Calendar.
- Roy Martinez seconded.
- All in attendance approved.

**X. Public comment**

- A parent indicated satisfaction with children's involvement in their own educational planning noting similarities with project management suggesting possibilities for increased interaction with industry and professional societies.

**XI. Planning session**

- The Board took no action to schedule a planning session prior to the February public meeting.

**XII. Adjourn public session**

- Roy Martinez motioned to adjourn public session and convene to executive session. Tracy Scroggins seconded. All in attendance approved.

**XIII. Convene executive session**

*The Board may vote to recess into executive session pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(a)(II), C.R.S., to confer with the school attorney, in order to receive legal advice or concerning pending and/or imminent litigation and pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(a), C.R.S., and pursuant to §24-6-402(3)(b)I for personnel matters.*

STEM School Highlands Ranch  
Board of Directors

P.J. Eucker PhD  
Executive Director  
January 16, 2018



Celebrations- Cyberpatriots move on to next round on January 19



STEM BEST Robotics- big winner with \$1,000 Award plus first in software design!



Thank you, Celina Perea!

December Volunteer of the Month – Celina Perea

Our volunteer of the month for December is Celine Perea, logging 125 hours with her donations. These donations are so helpful to our school and we couldn't do all we do without them. Thanks Celine, you are appreciated!



Best Staff Holiday Party!



## STEM in the News!

**Schools Partner to Bridge the Rural-Urban STEM Divide**

We've long heard that technology will revolutionize education, dissolving barriers created by distance, inequity of opportunity, and lack of resources, and bringing the world to every student.

And while it's true that many classrooms across Colorado have access to computers, tablets, smartphones, and fast internet connections, the potential revolution has been slow to materialize. Many schools struggle to use technology effectively, for a host of reasons.

This is especially true in some small, rural districts, where a lack of access to expertise and cutting-edge technology can stymie efforts to provide the education needed for the innovation economy.

But educators at the STEM School Highlands Ranch, a high-performing, 100%-student, public charter school in Douglas County, are not to prove that none of these barriers are insurmountable.

In fact, technology, while a wonderful tool, is just that – a tool. More important by far is connecting educators across geographical, cultural, and international boundaries who are "innovators with passion and purpose," said Stephanie Hernandez, an innovation coach at STEM School.

*Arkansas students in shop class. PHOTO*

## Denver Post Hub- TSA

**STEM students vie for a spot at regional competitions**

By Kaitlyn Giggie  
Year10 Contributor

Imagine hundreds of thousands of youths around the nation preparing themselves for an event centered around technology, engineering and science. It's not your average mechanical engineering or science olympiad. It's not your average engineering or science olympiad. It's not your average engineering or science olympiad. It's not your average engineering or science olympiad.

As a multi-year national winner in a host of TSA categories, STEM School Highlands Ranch is preparing to shine in its own big event, to all begin with the District event that was held at the school last year.

At the District, future engineers, scientists and technologists showed their best designs in hopes of being selected to move forward to competing for the final competition. The Park event with projects included remote control robots, drone design using technology and underwater robot driving.

Students who didn't get there on to the regional competition, the entire year's work will lead some to the national competition, held on June 22-23 in Atlanta, Ga., based on the theme "Engineering a Greener

## Highlands Ranch Hub

**Highlands Ranch school recognized for innovation**

By Kaitlyn Giggie  
Year10 Contributor

STEM School Highlands Ranch was one of 30 schools honored recently at the International World-Leading Leaders Convention, co-hosted by America Achieves and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development.

The school's recognition was a result of its work with industry partners and its unique Career Discovery Program, the first of its kind for Colorado high school students. The program offers a menu of options for students to explore STEM fields in real-world settings that could lead to internships, apprenticeships and full- or part-time jobs after graduation.

Executive director of the school, Dr. Penny Fackler spoke alongside Partner Industries' Christian Cook, who discussed how working with the school is not just about philanthropy. "We see it as a unique opportunity

## PSAT NMSQT

- PSAT NMSQT score reports have been released and sent home. **Congratulations to our STEM students, who scored in the 80th percentile combined English, Reading, Writing, and Math compared to 64% at the district level and 63% at the state level. We also had 15 students who scored in the 99th percentile!**

January 2018  
is  
School Board  
Recognition Month

## Financial Dashboard

- Days in Reserve: 107
- Emergency reserve: \$395,000
- Personnel and benefits: 64%
- Facilities: 12%
- % of actual to budget- 18% below budget

### Enrollment


- October Count- 1814
- Waitlist- over 1200
- Packet for waitlist by grade

### Enrichment

- Four summer sessions planned including performing arts, robotics and creative design
- Several hundred students are enrolled in TSA and our best will compete at the state competition this month
- Many choices for afterschool programming K-12

### Save the Date

- January 25- Middle School movie night
- January 31- Career Discovery for high school students
- February 3- Middle School Snowball dance
- February 20- Elementary Chinese New Year celebration
- May 18- Graduation



Best of luck to our spring semester competitive teams!