

STEM School Board of Directors Meeting

March 6th, 2018
5:30pm – 7:30pm
High School Commons

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, Rudy Lukez, Jeff Berg, Roy Martinez, Thomas Wendling, Adam Roderick
- Directors absent: Tracy Scroggins, Nicole Smith
- Other attendees: Penny Eucker, Leanne Weyman, Karen Johnson, Liz Duggan, SAC representative, PTO representative, roughly 15 parents, 9 students

ii Pledge of Allegiance

- Mark Alpert initiated.

II. Reciting of the Mission Statement

- Jeff Berg recited the mission.

III. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes

- Roy Martinez motioned to approve.
- Rudy Lukez seconded.
- All in attendance approved.

IV. Ms. Mackenzie Harper's student presentation

- Four teams of students from Ms. Mackenzie Harper's sixth grade science class presented problem-based learning projects offering operational suggestions involving:
 - Solar panels – presentation offered cost information and incremental implementation ideas,
 - Aerators for faucets – low cost suggestion to reduce water usage,
 - Academic Off the Grid Education – no cost program offering students periodic educational opportunities sans technology has nearly unanimous support from students and teachers,
 - Cans for a Cause Recycling Competition – portion of proceeds from potential recycling effort to fund party for winning class.

V. Executive Director's report

i Recent accomplishments and events

ii Budget report

iii Enrollment status and projections

iv Financial status and projections

- Penny Eucker passed around a Denver Post front page article featuring recent STEM collaborations with rural schools.
- See attached power point slides

VI. SAC update

- Minutes of the most recent SAC meeting posted at https://www.stemk12.org/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=773139&type=d&pREC_ID=1173492). Some highlights of the meeting included:
 - Discussion of feedback channels and processes for significant announcements,
 - Middle School Dance,
 - STEM's Got Talent,
 - Make a Wish,
 - Participation in spelling bee,
 - Fifth grade revolutionary war reenactment,
 - 100th day celebration,
 - Process for enrollment in electives including effects of course cancellation.
- Parent Survey questions edited for consistency and clarity. Survey to be administered in April.

VII. STEM PTO update

- Approximately \$70K of \$100K fundraising goal for academic year raised to date.
- Student clubs appreciated PTO help with All-Clubs Butter Braid fundraiser.
- Handbid website and mobile application software will enable grade level, class level, and/or club specific donations.
- Preparations for STEMfest on 4/28 including club and classroom involvement. Handbid website and mobile application software will allow entirely electronic money handling.

VIII. First reading of Donations/Gifts Acceptance Policy and Process

- Tabled

IX. Public comment

- A parent offered suggestions to 1) check functionality of Director STEM email addresses, 2) establish email response time frame guidelines, and 3)

establish an issues tracker system to manage and disseminate information particularly related to items raised during the public comment agenda item.

- A parent recognized and thanked Dr. Eucker as a visionary and enabler specifically in generating excitement for STEM in girls. The same parent was uncertain of who to contact given the recent administrative reorganizations. Leanne Weyman indicated new organizational roles in support of the school mission would be publicly available in approximately one month.
- A parent indicated all questions the same had presented at February Board of Director meeting regarding alleged overstepping of the email communication boundary between student and teacher have been addressed with the except of the question regarding the “Whistleblower Policy” in the Staff Handbook/Employee Handbook.
- A parent provided comment regarding STEM School at Highlands Ranch implementation of Individualized Educational Programs and 504 plans. Mark Alpert indicated a parent forum (subsequently announced as State of STEM) is planned for April 14th.
- A parent suggested the possibility of an additional parent forum in the fall.
- A parent provided feedback on an informal information exchange on the collaborative playground effort that occurred on March 5th led by Mark Alpert. The feedback indicated a generally productive direction considering and depending upon the Traffic Management Plan, the Facilities Master Plan, and the approval process.
- A parent provided a summary of the extensive effort involved in the most recent TSA conference praising efforts of Mr. Shallenberger and sportsmanship of STEM student participants.

X. Planning session

- The Board did not schedule an additional planning session prior to the next BOD meeting.

XI. Adjourn public session

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

XII. Convene executive session

The Board may vote to recess into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b): Conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice and C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e): Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators.

Board of Directors Report

P.J. Eucker PhD
March 6, 2018

A photograph of several purple flowers with green stems and leaves, growing out of a layer of white snow. The background is a soft, out-of-focus white.

Celebrations- Chinese New Year

A photograph of four people in traditional Chinese attire. A woman in a red dress is in the center, surrounded by others in blue and red. They appear to be in a school hallway decorated for the occasion.

Snow Ball- Middle School Dance

A photograph of a group of middle school students at a dance. A boy in a dark suit and red tie is in the foreground, looking towards the camera. Other students in formal wear are visible in the background.


High School Basketball

A photograph of a high school basketball game in progress. Several players in blue and white uniforms are on the court, with one player in the foreground jumping for a shot or rebound.

River Watch Club

A photograph of students in a laboratory setting. They are wearing safety goggles and gloves, working with various pieces of equipment and bottles on a lab bench.

Into the Woods Production

A photograph of a theatrical production on stage. Several actors in period costumes are visible, including a woman in a blue dress and a man in a dark suit. A white cow is also on stage.



State-Mandated Testing

Assessment	Subjects	Grades
Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)	English Language Arts (ELA) & Math	3-8
Colorado Measures of Academic Success (CMAS)	Science & Social Studies	Science 5, 8, & 11 Social Studies 4, 7
PSAT 9	Mathematics & Reading	9
PSAT 10	Mathematics & Reading	10
SAT	Mathematics & Reading (Writing is optional)	11

State Testing Virtual Days

Virtual Days for Secondary Students	
Dates	Grades
Tuesday, April 10	6-8 & 12
Wednesday, April 11 & Thursday April 12	7 for students whose last name starts with M-Z
Friday April 13 & Monday April 16	7 for students whose last name starts with A-L
Tuesday April 17	8
Wednesday April 18	6

Enrollment

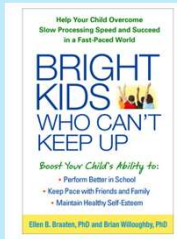
- Fully enrolled for next year
- 740 remain on the waitlist
- Fifth grade is the longest wait at 94 students
- Ethnic diversity maintained at 35.2%
- Of our 1816 enrolled at count, 63 are leaving STEM which includes 36 at 8th grade. Far fewer than the typical 25%. We are 15% at 8th grade and 3.4% overall attrition rate.

Financials

- In last part of first quarter so no new financials.
- Reconciliation in the fourth month of each quarter so our update will be at the May board meeting.
- CFO reports all dashboard metrics remain in the target zone.

Save the Date

- March 8- STEM hosts Dr. Braaten- Harvard professor and renowned expert in special education. 6:00pm in HS Commons
- March 14- STEM's Got Talent
- May 18- Graduation



Happy Spring!

