

STEM School  
Board of Directors Meeting  
June 30, 2021  
6:00 pm – 7:00 pm

**MINUTES**

**I. Call to Order 6:07 PM**

i. Roll Call: Rudy Lukez

BOD Members in attendance: Rudy Lukez, Nicole Smith, Roy Martinez, Ramesh Thatavarthi, Carla Gustafson, Kelly Reyna, Nate Angell and Michelle Horne  
Additional Attendees: Penny Eucker, Nicole Bostel

ii. Pledge of Allegiance: Kelly Reyna

**II. Reciting of the Mission Statement: Michelle Horne**

**III. Announcements: Rudy Lukez**

- i. Regarding May 7<sup>th</sup>, all STEM personnel are under a complete public communications blackout for our collective legal counsel while litigation is pending.
- ii. Dr. Penny Eucker's contract has been renewed for the next school year. The committee to the board will establish a new contract structure and associated processes. That committee will have a completion goal of December 31st 2021 so that all affected parties can plan accordingly at the start of the 2022 calendar year.
- iii. Dr. Johnson: New hires-
  - a. We have hired tremendously strong candidates, including a doctorate from Harvard who has charter school experience, as well as moved some MS teachers to high school. We are still looking for MS computer Science teacher.
  - b. We have several excellent candidates that have applied for our director positions. Those interviews are on Tuesday, July 6<sup>th</sup>. We should be able to finalize hiring be able to announce those positions in the upcoming weeks.
  - c. Our next meeting could be a public working session and would replace our August BOD meeting. This public session will be focused in on our 2021-2022 board priorities and the school's strategic plan. All parents and staff leaders are invited to participate in that public meeting.
- iv. Board Q &A
  - a. Should we keep that August meeting until we get closer since there are a lot of moving parts we may still need it?
    - i. Answer: We can vote on any key items that emerge on the following Tuesday. In the post-Covid world with students attending in-person and operating with a full staff, I'm anxious to get started on our urgencies. We might open one or two Tuesdays in August to catch up on other items as well. During the September meeting we will be voting on our officers. By having this working session prior to that meeting the newer board members can get a sense of our mission and priorities as well as get to know each other more. Nate Angel will be key in terms of understanding the contracts and the best practices here in Colorado.
  - b. I understand the hierarchy format at the start of the year. Will it be the executive director and then our three directors at each school level, correct?
    - i. Yes. We have so many new admin and with the type of talent and the quality of people that we're bringing on board right now, we will see how we function and then revisit it to make any adjustments needed. The role of head of school is not going away, but we're not immediately filling. We will use this time identify some other key characteristics we want in that type of leader as well so I think it's actually a great opportunity. Depending on the interviews for some of these administrators, we might find someone earlier, but for now we will see exactly what we think that role needs to be after the transition.

**IV. Approval of Annual board training policy- Required of all DCSD charter schools -STEM completed 2021-22 board training in June.**

Motion to approve: Roy Martinez

Motion to approve seconded: Nate Angel

Motion approved unanimously

**V. Board approval of RESOLUTION- Official Intent regarding Capital Expenditures to be reimbursed with proceeds of an obligation**

STEM has taken steps to ensure that we can acquire financing in order to build the CHSSA gym and additions. The Lighthouse corporation is our pass-through corporation set up through TABOR so that we can work on capital expenditures for the building expansion coming later at the end of this calendar year. Lighthouse Corporation is a building corporation which can carry multi-year debt, whereas STEM cannot do that as charter school. The funding mechanism in place is well below the max target most charter schools are asked to operate against. STEM has chosen to go with a 1.3 X the upper bound of our estimates: \$13 Million. Comment: Roy Martinez suggests that when we request for approval that we make a condition that the STEM address be added to the document and that Rudy and Nicole meet after the public session to vote on the approval of the updated document.

**Motion to approve the resolution expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to be in reimbursed with proceeds of an obligation specifically for this resolution at STEM School Highlands Ranch and the inclusion of the address on the document.**

Motion to approve: Nicole Smith

Motion to approve seconded: Roy Martinez

Motion approved unanimously

**VI. Adjourn Public Session**

Motion to Adjourn Public Session: Nicole Smith

Motion Seconded: Roy Martinez

Motion approved unanimously, public session ended 6:46 PM

**VII. Meeting of the Lighthouse Building Corporation - 6:46 PM**

The LBC board consists of Rudy Lukez, Nicole Smith and Star Ake. Since Star is not in attendance, a unanimous vote will carry with a 2-0 majority vote. Nicole notes that Star has reviewed the document and offered her prior concurrence to agreement.

**Motion for approval of the resolution expressing official intent regarding certain capital expenditures to reimburse with proceeds of an obligation for Lighthouse Corporation with one amendment to add the address to the document.**

Nicole Smith: Aye

Rudy Lukez: Aye

Motion passes with a 2-0 majority vote.

**VIII. Adjourn Meeting of the Lighthouse Building Corporation - 6:49 PM**

Motion to adjourn the meeting: Rudy Lukez

Motion Seconded; Nicole Smith

Meeting adjourned 6:49 PM