## STEM SCHOOL HIGHLANDS RANCH POLICY Viewpoint Neutrality

## I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to ensure that STEM and its employees treat the voluntary expression of a religious or political viewpoint by a student, on an otherwise permissible subject, in the same manner the School treats a students voluntary expression of a secular or other viewpoint on a subject, and to ensure, consistent with the Colorado and U.S. Constitution, that the School does not discriminate against any student based on a religious or political viewpoint expressed by the student on an otherwise permissible subject.

## II. POLICY

Any student, regardless of race, color, religion, national origin, or disability, may express the student's beliefs about religion or politics in homework, artwork, and other written and oral assignments free from discrimination based on the religious or political content of the students submission. Homework and classwork containing any such expression shall be judged by ordinary academic standards of substance and relevance, and against other legitimate pedagogical concerns identified by the School. Students may not be penalized or rewarded on account of religious or political content. In any such case of expression, a student's work should be judged on the basis of academic standards, including literary quality, and not penalized or rewarded on account of its religious or political content.

Approved by the STEM School Board on <u>11/10/2022_</u> .
(dd/mm/yyyy)
STEM School Highlands Ranch
By: <u>Michelle Horne (signature on file)</u>
(Signature, Board secretary)
Michelle Horne
(Printed name, Board secretary)

Adopted: March 2013 Revised: December 2021 Revised: October 2022