



STEM School Highlands Ranch

Board Meeting - Special Session

Published on October 2, 2024 at 7:24 AM MDT
Amended on October 3, 2024 at 11:09 AM MDT

Date and Time

Tuesday October 8, 2024 at 5:30 PM MDT

Location

Zoom Webinar

Public Session Access:

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:

Please click this URL to join. <https://zoom.us/j/96571602369?pwd=b7Q5TvhFXolOFpt4F7XauKn7RAPBdv.1>

Passcode: 990343

Agenda

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
I. Opening Items			5:30 PM
A. Record Attendance			2 m
B. Call the Meeting to Order			
II. STEM School Highlands Ranch Updates			5:32 PM
A. 2024/25 UIP Approval	Vote	Ishmeet Kalra	5 m
Ishmeet Kalra and Academic Excellence Committee presents Unified Improvement Plan for Board approval.			

	Purpose	Presenter	Time
B. Enrollment Policy Approval	Vote	Carla Gustafson	5 m
Carla Gustafson and Governance committee presents updated Enrollment Policy for Board approval.			
III. Board Committee Updates			5:42 PM
A. Finance Committee	Vote	Darrell Lomelino	5 m
Discuss and vote on proposal to appoint Board Treasurer, Darrell Lomelino, as Board designee to accept the FY24 audit on the Board's behalf prior to submission to DCSD for compilation and submission to CDE. The audit is due to DCSD by 10/30.			
For background/clarification - The Board is not adopting the audit, we accept the auditor's review and opinion. The auditor will be providing a presentation on the audit results to the full Board in the November meeting.			
IV. Executive Session			5:47 PM
A. Executive Session Discussions	Vote	Carla Gustafson	60 m
The Board may vote to recess into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4) (b) to obtain advice from the School's attorney related to specific legal questions regarding a lawsuit against the School, as well as pursuant to C.R.S. 24-6-402(4)(e) to determine positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations and to instruct negotiators regarding the lawsuit against the School.			
V. Closing Items			6:47 PM
A. Adjourn Meeting	Vote	Carla Gustafson	
Adjournment			

Never Stop Innovating! We envision a world of exponential possibilities where every child develops the innate knowledge, skills, creativity and character to thrive, lead and succeed in an ever-changing future.

Coversheet

2024/25 UIP Approval


Section: II. STEM School Highlands Ranch Updates
Item: A. 2024/25 UIP Approval
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: SAC 24-25 STEM Proposed UIP Goals Presentation.pdf

2024/2025 STEM SCHOOL HR UIP



Goal #1

Priority Performance Challenge : Priority Performance Challenge: Academic Growth: Disaggregated Groups

Performance Indicator:		Disaggregated Growth
Measures / Metrics:		ELA
 Annual Performance Targets	2024-2025:	STEM Middle School Minority Students, Multilingual Learners, and Students with Disabilities will increase Academic Growth from May 2024 to May 2025 as measured by the 2024-2025 ELA CMAS. In middle school, we will focus on the area of informational text, by increasing the exposure to informational text in all subject areas. We will focus on building up students vocabulary by incorporating instructional strategies such as using context clues and inferencing, while incorporating high order thinking skills.
	2025-2026:	
Interim Measures for 2024-2025:		We will use the iReady ELA benchmark assessment given in December to determine the progress made towards our Growth goal. We will use the data to drive our instructional decision making.




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Goal #2

Priority Performance Challenge : Priority Performance Challenge: Academic Growth: Disaggregated groups

Performance Indicator: Academic Growth	
Measures / Metrics: ELA	
 Annual Performance Targets	2024-2025: STEM Elementary School Students with Disabilities will increase Academic Growth from May 2024 to May 2025 as measured by the 2024-2025 ELA CMAS. In elementary school, we will focus on the area of informational text by strengthening the use of vocabulary instruction in all subject areas. We will use various instructional strategies to include direct instruction, small group instruction, and context clues strategies.
	2025-2026:
Interim Measures for 2024-2025: We will use the iReady ELA benchmark assessment given in December to determine the progress made towards our Growth goal. We will use the data to drive our instructional decision making.	

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Goal # 3

Priority Performance Challenge : Priority Performance Challenge: READ Act

Performance Indicator: Academic Growth

Measures / Metrics: ELA

 **Annual
Performance
Targets**

2024-2025: STEM elementary school will decrease the percentage of students requiring reading intervention, thus closing the achievement gap, from 8% to 6% of the K-3 population, as measured by the READ Act data.

2025-2026:


Interim Measures for 2024-2025: We will use the iReady ELA benchmark assessment, as well as the progress monitoring data, given in December and quarterly to determine the progress made towards our Growth goal. We will use the data to drive our instructional decision making.

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Goal # 4

Priority Performance Challenge : Priority Performance Challenge: Academic Growth

Performance Indicator: Academic Growth	
Measures / Metrics: M	
 Annual Performance Targets	2024-2025: STEM High School students who are eligible for Free and Reduced Lunch will increase Academic Growth in math from May 2024 to May 2025 as measured by the 2024-2025 Math CMAS. In high school, we will focus on incorporating graphing and high order thinking skills throughout all content areas.
	2025-2026:
Interim Measures for 2024-2025: We will use the our PLC data conversations to align our instruction and to analyze the data from common assessments.	



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Coversheet

Enrollment Policy Approval

Section: II. STEM School Highlands Ranch Updates
Item: B. Enrollment Policy Approval
Purpose: Vote
Submitted by:
Related Material: Policy_Enrollment_2024.pdf

Enrollment Policy

STEM SCHOOL HIGHLANDS RANCH POLICY Enrollment

I. PURPOSE

The purpose of this policy is to define the enrollment process and requirements for STEM School Highlands Ranch (STEM). STEM is a free, public charter school authorized by the Douglas County School District (DCSD) and serves grades Kindergarten through 12.

II. POLICY

A. Open and Choice Enrollment

STEM participates in DCSD's annual open enrollment and choice enrollment processes, adhering to all applicable dates and deadlines. Parents/guardians must submit an application to enroll their student(s) in STEM. STEM utilized DCSD's open enrollment application software platform for open enrollment.

B. Prioritizing Applicants

When the number of eligible applicants during the open enrollment period exceeds the spaces available in a particular program, grade or school, as determined by the Executive Director or designee, applications will be prioritized by grade level on the annual prioritized list by the priorities listed below.

- First Priority: Siblings of current STEM students
- Second Priority: Founding Families and children and grandchildren of current STEM staff and board members
 - An Enrollment Priority Request Form is required to provide proof of enrollment priority
- Third Priority: Student applicants who are DCSD Residents
- Fourth Priority: Student applicants who are not DCSD residents.

Enrollment priority does not guarantee enrollment if there is no availability at the applicant's grade level. Due to enrollment priorities, STEM does not release information regarding a particular applicant's position on the list. Founding Families, staff members, and board members must complete the Enrollment Priority Request Form in order to provide proof they meet these enrollment priority criteria prior to the First Round Open Enrollment Application period.

Enrollment Policy

Applicants not accepted during enrollment by STEM during the First Round Open Enrollment Application period will automatically be placed on the annual prioritized list and will have priority over those applicants by applying during the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period. STEM's annual prioritized list will be purged upon the close of the Second Round Open Enrollment period of each year, in accordance with DCSD policies. Applicants not offered enrollment must reapply the following year, as the list does not carry over from year to year.

C. STEM Interest List

STEM offers prospective families the opportunity to complete the STEM Interest Form to receive notifications about open enrollment dates and enrollment related information. Completing the STEM Interest Form is separate from the DCSD/STEM Open and Choice Enrollment processes, and is not considered an open or choice enrollment application. The STEM Interest Form does not guarantee enrollment nor does it obligate families to enroll in STEM.

D. Admission Phase

As per the DCSD Open Enrollment process, STEM offers a First Round Open Enrollment Application period and a Second Round Open Enrollment Application period. Once issued an offer of enrollment during the First Round Open Enrollment Application period, parents/guardians must accept the offer by the First Round Open Enrollment Application period deadline. Once issued an offer of enrollment during the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period, parents/guardians must accept the offer within 48 hours.

Parents/guardians are responsible for providing a reasonable way for STEM to reach them regarding enrollment and are also responsible for informing the school of any change to their contact information. While STEM will attempt to notify families, the school is not responsible for the inability to contact families should they be unreachable (i.e., traveling, inaccurate information, etc.). Failure to respond to the enrollment offer by the deadline may result in the enrollment offer becoming void and the opening will be offered to the applicant next on the annual prioritized list.

E. Enrollment Phase

To complete the enrollment phase, parents/guardians must complete and return all registration and enrollment forms within five working days of when the enrollment offer was issued. Failure to complete and return all required registration and enrollment forms by the deadline may result in the enrollment offer becoming void and the opening will be offered to the applicant next on the annual prioritized list. Under DCSD guidelines, by accepting an offer of enrollment at STEM, you have established STEM as your student's assigned school through 12th grade.

F. Enrollment for Students Receiving Special Education Services

Requests from the parents/guardians of students receiving special education services for choice enrollment to STEM shall be considered in accordance with applicable state and federal laws. Consideration of whether or not a student receiving special education services is

Enrollment Policy

able to enroll in a school of choice shall be implemented in a two-step process. The first step of the process is the Admissions Phase and the second step is the Enrollment Phase. In order for a student receiving special education services to enroll and attend a school of choice, the student must be admitted after completion of the Admissions Phase of the process and then must be approved for enrollment during the Enrollment Phase of the process.

During a school's Admissions Phase of the process, including any lottery or similar process, school shall not in any way inquire into the disability status of a student. If a student receiving special education services is admitted through the Admissions Phase of the process, the student must still be approved for enrollment into the school of choice. During the Enrollment phase of the process, the student's current Individualized Education Program (IEP) shall be reviewed to determine if the student's IEP can be appropriately implemented at the requested school or program so the student can be provided a Free Appropriate Public Education (FAPE). If there is a determination that the student's IEP cannot be implemented at the requested school, student enrollment may be denied and the student may be assigned to another school where the student's IEP can be implemented as developed by the IEP team. Decisions to assign the student to another school shall be made with due consideration for the impact on the child's total education program and must include parent/guardian participation.

G. Vacancies

Should a vacancy become available prior to the end of the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period, the vacancy will be filled as specified above. Should a vacancy become available between the end of the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period and October 1st, the vacancy may be filled through the Choice Enrollment process. Should a vacancy become available after October 1st, it will be the decision of the Executive Director or designee to fill that vacancy or leave it open until the following school year.

H. Choice Enrollment

Following the close of the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period, STEM may offer choice enrollment to new DCSD and non-DCSD students throughout the school year based on availability. New DCSD students are those who have moved into DCSD after the Second Round Open Enrollment Application period has closed and/or have not yet enrolled in a DCSD school. For eligible students, STEM offers a STEM School Highlands Ranch New Student Choice Application process available on the STEMK12.org website.

Enrollment Policy

I. Transfers

Students may choose to enroll in STEM after Second Round Open Enrollment Application period closes; however, for students already enrolled in DCSD, the process for administrative transfers in accordance with DCSD Policy JCA/JFB-R shall be followed.

Approved by the STEM School Board on _____.
(dd/mm/yyyy)

STEM School Highlands Ranch

By: _____
(Signature, Board Secretary)

(Printed name, Board Secretary)

Adopted: 2019
Revised: January 2023
Revised: August 2023
Revised: October 2023
Revised: October 2024