APPROVED

STEM School Highlands Ranch

Minutes

Board Meeting - Special Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday May 21, 2025 at 5:30 PM

Location
Zoom Webinar

Public Session Access:
Join from PC, Mac, iPad, or Android:
https://zoom.us/j/96554859813?pwd=RTBrlaAZogFljLGvAzY0M0ckGKESUa.1
Passcode:356677

Directors Present
C. Gustafson (remote), D. Lomelino (remote), E. Quigley (remote), G. Shick (remote), G. Wing (remote)

Directors Absent
I. Kalra, R. Lukez

Guests Present
Mattie Murphy (remote), S. Milner (remote)

I. Opening Items

A. Record Attendance

B. Call the Meeting to Order

C. Gustafson called a meeting of the board of directors of STEM School Highlands Ranch to order on Wednesday May 21, 2025 at 5:36 PM.

II. Finance Committee Update

A. Board approval of 2024/25 funding adjustment

Darrell gave background on basis of underfunding. DCSD provided offer of $210K for ppr portion of funding (net with DCSD payback per charter). The difference we wouldn't receive is MLO (approx $42K) and capital construction funding that is provided on a per pupil basis. The difference we would not be receiving if we settled for $210K is estimated at $100K. There is uncertainty of the actual value we would receive after the audit process and potential negotiations. DCSD is paying the funding out of their general fund.

Sean was told by DCSD that a change in MLO money would actually impact other charter schools because the sum would be redistributed based on full student account across the district. Sean was told that capital construction funding is a CDE decision, so that's why it's not part of DCSD offer. It's a DCSD decision to waive out of the audit, not on a per school (charter) basis.
Discussed that there may still be some negotiations regarding adding MLO funding to the offer, at least part of the $42K
G. Wing made a motion to Accept DCSD proposal to pay October 2024 student count difference at a rate of at least $210K for 21 students, instead of waiting 2 to 3 years for CDE audit to potentially provide full funding.
E. Quigley seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Shick	Aye
I. Kalra	Absent
G. Wing	Aye
E. Quigley	Aye
C. Gustafson	Aye
D. Lomelino	Aye
R. Lukez	Absent

Sean left the meeting at 6:00

III. CIO Support & Evaluation

A. CIO End of Year Evaluation

Erin led the discussion reviewing the CIO End of Year Evaluation report. There is an internal report for the Board and a summary report provided in the agenda. Erin and Carla met with Matt and reviewed the report with him earlier this week. The report summarized strengths, where we encourage focus for next year, and Board commitments to support the CIO.

Discussed that an area for focus includes financial transparency. The director level budgets were not fully setup with reporting this year, even though that was the original plan for the year, so this is a focus for next year.

Another key area for focus is redefining roles and responsibilities in support for growth and replication. We expect that Matt's role will shift to be more head of Koson and less focused on STEM.

B. CIO Employment Agreement for 25/26 School Year

Discussion about adjusting schedule for contract renewal to mid-year (Jan). Plan is to amend the contract in January 2026 to extend through December 2026, so that the renewal timeline would change to mid school year. This will be an action for the CIO Support and Evaluation committee and it was pointed out that the Board will need to make a decision on any salary increase on that new timeline.
D. Lomelino made a motion to Approve CIO Employment Agreement for 2025/26 School Year.
E. Quigley seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call	
R. Lukez	Absent
I. Kalra	Absent
G. Wing	Aye
C. Gustafson	Aye
E. Quigley	Aye
D. Lomelino	Aye
G. Shick	Aye

IV. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

G. Wing made a motion to Adjourn at 6:34 pm.
E. Quigley seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
There being no further business to be transacted, and upon motion duly made, seconded and approved, the meeting was adjourned at 6:34 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Gustafson

Documents used during the meeting

- DRAFT_EOY CIO Report Summary May 2025.pdf
- MC_2025-26_Proposed_Contract_20250520.pdf

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.