APPROVED

STEM SCHOOL
HIGHLANDS RANCH

STEM School Highlands Ranch

Minutes

Board of Directors Meeting

Monthly Meeting

Date and Time
Wednesday October 21, 2026 at 5:30 PM

Location
8920 Barrons Blvd
P-TECH Room 112
Highlands Ranch, CO 80129

Join from a PC, Mac, iPad, iPhone or Android device:
Please click this URL to join:
https://zoom.us/j/92516969428?pwd=tVZX37SEZbSn2QjJwRby7KnNodywRm.1
Passcode: 206805

Directors Present
A. Campbell, C. Gustafson, C. West, C. Wroblewski (remote), D. Lomelino, E. Quigley (remote), G. Kuppuswamy, G. Wing, R. Alleman, R. Asberry

Directors Absent
I. Kalra

Directors who arrived after the meeting opened
D. Lomelino, E. Quigley, G. Wing

Directors who left before the meeting adjourned
C. West, E. Quigley

Guests Present
A. Cardinal, Dakotah Mann, L. Kovalesky, M. Cartier, Ryan Alsup, S. Milner

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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 Oct 21, 2026 at 5:32 PM.
G. Wing arrived at 5:34 PM.

C. Pledge of Allegiance

D. Reciting of the Mission Statement

E. Chair Opening Remarks

II. Approve Meeting Minutes

A. Board Meeting Sep 16th

G. Wing made a motion to approve the minutes from Board of Directors Meeting on 09-16-26.
R. Alleman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

B. Board Meeting Sep 30th

R. Alleman made a motion to approve the minutes from Board Meeting - Special Meeting on 09-30-26.
G. Kuppuswamy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

III. Public Comment

A. Public Comment Sign up link

No public comment

IV. STEM School Highlands Ranch Updates

A. Student Government Spotlight

Student Government representatives provided an update on activities to date and what's planned for the rest of the school year. Student Accountability Committee is now combined with Student Government. They've seen a lot more participation at Homecoming and activities by students this year compared to last year.
E. Quigley arrived at 5:37 PM.
D. Lomelino arrived at 5:30 PM.

B. Executive Director Update

School Performance Framework Update - strong ratings for Academic Achievement 91.0% overall and Postsecondary & Workforce Readiness 93.4% overall. Progress in Academic Growth 76.8%. 2026 SPF score increased to 86.0% compared to previous year (2025) at 84.6%.
Proposed Academic Calendar for 27/28 - same as current schedule
Unified Improvement Plan Update - A UIP update was not required this year, but STEM did submit an update to DCSD and State based on analysis/review of SPF results. Three priorities in UIP updatet - Increase Elementary (3-5) ELA growth for identified student groups to reduce growth gaps, Increase middle school ELA Achievement for students with disabilities, and Increase math academic growth for all students and reduce growth gaps for identified student groups.

Enrollment was 1560 as of October 1st vs budget basis of 1485. Enrollment for Homeschool Enrichment was 29 vs budget basis of 21. At November meeting, we'll have report on official enrollment values from October count.

C. Approve Proposed 27/28 Academic Calendar

A. Campbell made a motion to Approve the proposed 2027/28 Academic Calendar.
R. Alleman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

D. Approve SPF/UIP Update

A. Campbell made a motion to Approve the UIP Update.
R. Alleman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. Proposed STEM Courses for 27/28

C. Gustafson asked questions about how a course can be offered as both CE and AP since they have different prerequisites and registration/tuition requirements. It was clarified by staff that this is common practice and registration/credit is set by each respective program. A class taken by a student as CE through ACC needs to follow their deadlines/requirements. A class taken by a student as AP needs to follow their deadlines/requirements for signing up for AP exam. In general, students can take an AP exam without taking a specific AP course, credit is dependent on results of AP exam.

R. Alleman made a motion to Approve the proposed new STEM courses for 2027/28.
A. Campbell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
E. Quigley left at 6:32 PM.

F. STEM Enrollment Policy

C. Gustafson explained that the STEM Enrollment Policy update is needed to address DCSD feedback on the policy update that the board approved in June 2026. DCSD pointed out that per our charter contract, STEM is required to follow the DCSD open enrollment schedule. Our June 2026 update proposed an earlier schedule. DCSD also provided additional feedback requesting that our policy include the specific open enrollment schedule dates that match DCSD instead of just saying we follow the DCSD policy.
G. Kuppuswamy made a motion to Approve the updated Enrollment Policy.
D. Lomelino seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

G. Resolution regarding DCSD MLO Ballot Initiative

C. Gustafson presented the proposed resolution. The STEM Board approved similar resolutions for previous MLO and Bond ballot initiatives. The DCSD approved MLO plan states that charter schools can utilize their share to make compensation for charter school teachers and staff more competitive. The STEM Admin plan is to utilize any proceeds from the MLO towards teacher and staff salary increases, bonuses, and benefits.

The group discussed that there are specific rules and guidelines regarding ballot questions and that school staff cannot campaign in their official capacity. As a charter board, if we pass a resolution in support of the MLO, this provides an opportunity for STEM to share the fact that our Board supports the MLO with our community.
D. Lomelino made a motion to Pass a Resolution supporting DCSD MLO Ballot initiative.
G. Kuppuswamy seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

V. KOSON Schools

A. CEO Update

M. Cartier provided a general update. He noted that he's confirmed that the Koson board can become a non-voting member of CASB (Colorado Association of School Boards) and that he's checking into this opportunity.

B. Authorize Treasurer to Accept Audit Report

A. Campbell made a motion to Accept the Board Treasurer to accept the audit report on the Board's behalf prior to submission to DCSD.

C. West seconded the motion.
The auditor will provide a presentation to the board at the November or December meeting.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

C. Executive Session

D. Lomelino made a motion to enter into executive session pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4) (a & e) to discuss potential purchase, transfer, or sale of real estate for High School relocation project, Ridgeline Project, other potential projects, and for advice to negotiators regarding such options; and pursuant to C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(e)(I) Determining positions relative to matters that may be subject to negotiations; developing strategy for negotiations; and instructing negotiators regarding ongoing litigation.
G. Kuppuswamy seconded the motion.
Board left public session at 6:55 pm.
The board **VOTED** to approve the motion.

Roll Call

G. Wing	Aye
C. West	Aye
I. Kalra	Absent
D. Lomelino	Aye
R. Alleman	Aye
E. Quigley	Absent
C. Wroblewski	Aye
G. Kuppuswamy	Aye
R. Asberry	Aye
C. Gustafson	Aye
A. Campbell	Aye

Executive Session went from 7:03 pm to 8:41 pm.
Included Matt Cartier and Sean Milner (Sean Milner left Executive Session at 8:32 pm)

D. High School Relocation Project

Board joined public session at 8:47 pm.
M. Cartier, S. Milner, A. Cardinal, D. Mann were present during this portion of public session.
A. Campbell made a motion to Proceed with STEM Administration recommended path forward for Ridgeline project and Mineral project, and to proceed with an update to the Master Facility Plan.
D. Lomelino seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.
G. Wing made a motion to Authorize proceeding with a bridge loan for the Ridgeline Project.
R. Alleman seconded the motion.

The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

E. CEO Annual Goals

C. Gustafson presented the proposed annual CEO goals.
G. Wing made a motion to Approve the proposed CEO Annual Goals.
R. Alleman seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

F. Bylaws Update

C. Gustafson reviewed the proposed updates to the Board bylaws. They are minor changes to include mention of Board chair being also known as president, Board vice chair being also known as vice president, and add Board chair and secretary signatures to the document. The updated bylaws will be presented for Board approval at the November meeting.

VI. Consent Agenda

A. Vote for Consent Agenda Items

G. Kuppuswamy made a motion to Approve the Consent Agenda.
A. Campbell seconded the motion.
The board **VOTED** unanimously to approve the motion.

VII. Board Committee Updates

A. Academic Excellence Committee Update

A. Campbell stated that the committee is working on updates to the one pager. She also highlighted that ACC informed STEM that they would be discontinuing the Game Design pathway in the near future, but a specific timeline was not provided. There was general board discussion that it's important to have new computer software courses/pathway to replace this pathway.
C. West left at 9:10 PM.

B. CEO Support & Evaluation Committee Update

C. Gustafson stated the draft one pager is in the Board book for final review. It will be on the consent agenda for the next meeting.

C. Facility & Security Committee Update

The one pager was approve in this meeting's consent agenda. No other updates.

D. Finance Committee Update

D. Lomelino stated that the draft one pager is in the board book. It will be on the consent agenda at the next meeting.

E. Governance Committee Update

C. Gustafson stated that committee work is focused on the board handbook and board member agreement.

F. Strategic Plan/Growth Committee Update

C. Gustafson stated that draft one pager is in the board book, and it will be on the consent agenda for next month.

VIII. Closing Items

A. Adjourn Meeting

G. Wing made a motion to Adjourn the meeting.
A. Campbell 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 9:23 PM.

Respectfully Submitted,
C. Gustafson

Documents used during the meeting

- October Board Presentation 26_27-update.pdf
- New Courses for 27-28_Board_Slides.pdf
- Update 10-20 Policy_Enrollment_2026-10.pdf
- Update 10-20 Redlines_Policy_Enrollment_2026-10.pdf
- Working - Policy_Enrollment_20261007.pdf
- Koson Board Resolution declaring support for MLO 10212026.pdf
- CEO Board Presentation 20261021.pptx (1).pdf
- Koson CEO Goals Oct 2026.pdf
- Working Version - Koson Board Bylaws_Redline_20261007.pdf
- STEM Charter Amendment Resolution.pdf
- KOSON FOUNDATION BYLAWS - 062326.pdf
- 2026-27 Governance Committee One Pager.pdf
- Facility Security Committee One Pager 2026-27.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.