

STEM School Board of Directors Meeting

November 5, 2019
5:30pm – 7:30pm
High School Commons

8773 Ridgeline Blvd. | Highlands Ranch, CO | 80129

MINUTES

- I. Call to Order** **Mark Alpert- 5:30-5:45**
- Roll Call** **Section I and II**
- Meeting called to order at 5:30 PM
 - Directors present: Mark Alpert, Rudy Lukez, Jeff Berg, Roy Martinez, Nicole Smith, Thomas Wendling, Tracy Scroggins, Trevor Kilpatrick, and Ramesh B. Thatavarthi.
 - Other attendees: Penny Eucker, Karen Johnson, Leanne Weyman, Robert Hoorstra, Nicole Bostel, Steve Park, Pam Watson Korbel, two PTO representatives, a SAC representative, two students, and approximately four parents.
- Pledge of Allegiance**
- Mark Alpert initiated.
- II. Reciting of the Mission Statement**
- Thomas Wendling recited the mission statement.
- III. Review and approval of previous board meeting minutes** **Action- approve minutes**
- Mark Alpert asked that mention of Microsoft Technology Education and Literacy in Schools (TEALS) be included in the first bullet of item **IV**.
 - Thomas Wendling noted Stephanie Mendrala's name was misspelled in the first bullet of item **V. i**.
 - Rudy Lukez motioned to approve the 10/1/2019 minutes amended as mentioned in the first two bullets above.
 - Nicole Smith seconded.
 - All directors approved.

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IV. Student government presentation

Student reps 5:45-5:50

- Two student government representatives gave an update from the student body including
 - recent sporting activities (volleyball, cross country, soccer, golf, basketball),
 - the STEM soccer team was in the state tournament,
 - activities to boost student morale,
 - senior nights,
 - trunk or treat, and
 - Career discovery and Careerwise.

V. Executive Director Report

P.J. Eucker PhD 5:45-6:00

- Nicole Bostel, the recently hired school Communications Director, is making improvements to the communications process
- Robert Hoornstra introduced Steve Park, the recently hired school Security Manager.

i Parent survey results- Dr. Johnson

Section III report A-D

- Dr. Karen Johnson presented the results of the 2018-2019 SAC parent survey.
- The parent survey partially addresses the fourth bullet of the Charter Renewal Contract Item I. C. Contract Compliance and School.
- Director Smith asked Dr. Johnson what action steps have been identified.
- Dr. Johnson indicated that:
 - the school community will have access to survey results on the school webpage,
 - departments are discussing results and establishing appropriate actions and changes,
 - the school webpage will include subsequent actions.

ii State of STEM details

- The State of STEM celebration is scheduled for Wednesday, 11/6/2019 from 3:30PM to 5:30PM.

VI. PTO update

PTO 6:00-6:10 Sec IV

- Susan Montgomery introduced Aleza Bautista as the PTO Co-President and provided commentary on Spirit night, a first ever K-5 fun run, and the STEMGives campaign which will run from 11/21 to 1/19.

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- The next PTO meeting is November 13th from 5:30 to 7:00PM in the Middle School Cafeteria.

VII. SAC update

SAC 6:10-6:20 Sec IV

- During the most recent SAC meeting, Patrick Callahan, the SAC elementary faculty representative, noted heightened sense of stress among faculty due to the number of new teachers.
- The recently installed door locks with an interactive locking button are easily identified as locked or unlocked.
- STEM and SAC has a prominent presence in the Douglas County Leadership program with three SAC representatives and six to eight other parent representatives out of the total of thirty involved in the training.
- To be a sounding board for the school, SAC has extended invitations to STEM leaders to attend future SAC meetings.
- SAC is working with the PTO and Suzanna Spear to facilitate a recycling program to help STEM establish a greener presence.
- The next SAC meeting is November 20th.

VIII. Board Reports- informational- no action

Committee chairs

i Curriculum- Jeff Berg- 5 minutes

6:20-6:40

- Jeff Berg gave an overview of the 20182019 Curriculum Committee report.
- Rudy Lukez asked about comparison of AP and CE numbers with neighboring Schools and noted that STEM might find growth measured by the standardized assessment Colorado Measure of Academic Success (CMAP) more challenging as STEM students generally demonstrate high academic standing.
- Nicole Smith recommended establishing benchmarks for standardized assessment measures.

ii Finance- Nicole Smith-5 minutes

- Nicole Smith indicated that the school closing on the purchase option on the elementary wing and an upgraded bond rating that will allow financing at lower cost are imminent. Robert Hoornstra and Star Ake were instrumental in these accomplishments.

iii Fundraising- Roy Martinez-5 minutes

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- Roy Martinez summarized the direction of the fundraising committee.
- Trevor Kilpatrick noted that many in the STEM community would qualify for employer matching and recommended that those who volunteer and/or donate consider leveraging this possibility if applicable.

iv Legal- Roy Martinez- 5 minutes

- Roy Martinez summarized past activities and future direction of the legal committee whose purpose is to support the Board in legal matters.

IX. New Business- approve Disclosure Policy

Nicole Smith 6:40-6:45

Action- approve

- Agenda item was tabled until after the executive session

X. Public comment

6:45-7:00

- A parent recommended that STEM reconsider the procedure for K-5 virtual days. Dr. Eucker indicated she and Dr. Johnson would work with the parent to address concerns with the most recent virtual days and identify potential improvements.
- A parent recognized the ship building program started by Dr. Gregg Cannady as a creative venture.

XI. Adjourn public session

- Rudy Lukez motioned to convene executive session.
- Trevor Kilpatrick seconded.
- All directors approved.

XII. Convene executive session

The Board may vote to recess into executive session 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

C.R.S. § 24-6-402(4)(b): Conferences with an attorney for the local public body for the purposes of receiving legal advice

- Rudy Lukez motioned to reconvene public session.
- Tracy Scroggins seconded.
- Jeff Berg motioned that the Disclosure Policy is not subject to the policy on adoption of policy process due to exigent circumstances.
- Tracy Scroggins seconded.
- All directors approved.

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- Nicole Smith motioned to approve Disclosure Policy.
- Rudy Lukez seconded.
- All directors approved.
- Roy Martinez motioned to reaffirm officers.

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- Mark Alpert - BOD Chair and President
 - Rudy Lukez - Vice President
 - Nicole Smith - Treasurer
 - Jeff Berg - Secretary
- Trevor Kilpatrick seconded.
 - All directors approved.
 - Roy Martinez motioned to adjourn public session.
 - Tracy Scroggins seconded.
 - All directors approved.