



STEM SCHOOL

HIGHLANDS RANCH

Never Stop Innovating

Back-to-School Parent Info Session

Topic: Getting Involved

Parent Website

Your Hub for Parent News,
Procedures and Policies
stemk12.org/parents

STEM SCHOOL
HIGHLANDS RANCH

Financial Transparency

Students Parents **GIVE TO STEM**

Home About Us Enrollment Academics STEM Experience Calendars Contact Us

Information for Current STEM Parents

Welcome the STEM Parent Page. Informed and involved parents are so important to the success of our entire school. This page includes everything that our parents need to know while their student is enrolled at STEM.

Get Involved

Getting involved at STEM is easy. There are a variety of ways that include volunteering, the School Accountability Committee (SAC), Parent Teacher Organization (PTO), Board of Directors and more.

Click below to find information on:

- Volunteering at STEM
- The School Accountability Committee (SAC)
- Parent Teacher Organization (PTO)
- Board of Directors

[Explore How to Get Involved](#)

Get Connected

We want to hear from our families. Communication flow between STEM and our families includes our social media channels, weekly newsletters and our Communications Pathways process.

Click below to find more information on:

- Communications Pathways
- Newsletters
- Social Media Channels

[Explore How to Get Connected](#)

Get Informed

Informed families are empowered families. We want to make it as easy as possible for families to access all of the information needed to help their students have the best experience possible.

Click below to find information on:

- Student/Parent Handbook
- Transportation Management Plan/Driveline
- Attendance Information (Guidelines, Absence, etc.)
- Lunch Program
- Technology Support
- Health Services
- More

[Explore How to Get Informed](#)

Volunteering at STEM

We are extremely grateful for the time and energy donated by STEM parents each year.

Volunteering and giving to STEM are vital to the success of our school. Our school has a charter that requires a commitment of 30 volunteer hours per family (15 hours per single-parent family).

For questions about Volunteering at STEM, contact the Volunteer Coordinator, Kathy Reid (kathy.reid@stemk12.org).

Volunteering at STEM

- Volunteer opportunities are posted in the Newsletter each week
 - Be sure to look at the Elementary News/Updates and/or the Secondary News/Updates to see where you can get involved.
 - Opportunities are also listed on the Get Involved section of the Parent page.
 - We will share volunteer opportunities on our social media channels

Volunteering at STEM

- Every \$20 of donated items translates to one volunteer hour.
 - Remember, the law states that you cannot deduct the value of your time.
 - The IRS does not allow a charitable deduction for volunteering your services.
 - By IRS definition, charitable contributions represent gifts given without reciprocity.
 - Our donation policy is that every \$20 donated equates to one hour of volunteer time.

Volunteering at STEM

- Donation opportunities are posted in the Newsletter each week
 - Be sure to look at the Elementary News/Updates and/or the Secondary News/Updates to see items that teachers are requesting
 - Opportunities are also listed on the Get Involved section of the Parent page.
 - We will share donation opportunities on our social media channels

Volunteering at STEM

Logging your Hours

- One benefit of our volunteer system is that when you sign-in on the laptop at the front desk, your volunteer hours will automatically be logged for you.
- You also have the capability to log hours from home. Remember that any donated items will count toward your hours.
- Every \$20 = 1 hour. You will need to make the conversion and log in to the appropriate event.
- <https://www.helpcounterweb.com/ci/volunteer>

Volunteering at STEM

Setting up Your Account

- You will need to create an account in HelpCounter. You will be able to pick your areas of interest to volunteer. Once an opportunity becomes available in your area of interest, you will receive an email with a link to sign up if you choose to.
 - To get your account started, request your password, or log your hours:
https://www.helpcounterweb.com/update/sign_into_account.php?aid=fjzbuuudh
 - Please be sure to create your account as a family (i.e. Jack & Jill Hill)

Volunteering at STEM

Setting up Your Account

- If you will both be here at the same time and want separate accounts, please let us know by clicking the link below so that we can link your accounts and give full credit when adding up hours
 - https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1a2bN2ji2PbiDZiiY1Wr1Ze_FPuP_tZcVz9nMWa-uXP8/viewform
 - Also, be sure to let us know if you are a single-parent family by completing this form:
<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/188Mx-H-ddmcNMpuetWhlpprIJ0yV5BpxJGrqBYyMKyg/viewform>

Parent-Teacher Organization

PTO's mission is to work in partnership with the school to foster a strong sense of community, provide enhancement activities for student, staff and families and to help increase the educational, social and emotional experience for all.

Visit: stemk12.org/about-us/pto

Parent-Teacher Organization

What does the PTO do?

Our mission ensures STEM PTO works in partnership with STEM School Highlands Ranch to foster a strong sense of community, provide enhancement activities for student, faculty, staff and families and help increase the educational, social and emotional experience for the members and their families.

Want to get involved? Email pto@stemk12.org

School Accountability Committee

- Colo state law requires every school to have a SAC committee
- 4+ Parents, 1 Elementary Teacher, 1 Secondary Teacher, PTO Rep, Administrator, and Community Rep
- Purpose of SAC is to be an advisory committee
 - Inform and encourage participation from parents and school community
- SAC provides recommendations regarding
 - School's overall performance - Unified Improvement Plan
 - Budget priorities/requests
 - Parent and School community concerns related to school performance or safety issues

School Accountability Committee

- Meetings are typically 3rd Wednesday of each month during school year
- Provide presentations on pertinent topics
 - Examples: Tri-County Health, STEM Counseling Team, Standards Based Learning
- Meeting agendas defined based on SAC responsibilities and community feedback
 - Include reports from STEM Admin, Teachers, PTO, Community Rep, DAC Rep
- Subcommittees
 - UIP development
 - Administer Parent survey and review feedback
 - Communications
 - SAC Bylaws Update
- SAC Representative(s) participate in STEM Diversity, Equity & Inclusion committee

School Accountability Committee

How can I get involved?

- Come to the monthly meetings! August 18th, 6:00-8:00, HS Commons
- Review the SAC meeting agendas and meeting minutes on the STEM SAC website Send email to SAC@STEMK12.org
 - Feedback or Ideas for meeting presentations
 - Concerns regarding overall school performance, safety issues
 - Ideas for budget requests - noise attenuation in elementary lunchroom
- Looking for new parent volunteers every Spring