



## STEM School Highlands Ranch SAC Monthly Notes December 15, 2021

Meeting Date: December 15, 2021

Meeting Location: STEM School Highlands Ranch – High School Commons

Listen only mode for Zoom was available

Time: 5:30pm – 7:00pm

Present:

Kelly Reyna, SAC Chair

Jason O'Rourke, Vice-Chair

Amy Winans, SAC Recorder

Bernadette Amaya, DAC Rep

Carla Gustafson, Parent Rep

D.J. Steines, Parent Rep - absent

Ben Ryder, Parent Rep - absent

Ronalea Alleman, Parent Rep

Secondary Rep - TBD

Samantha Liebenow, Elementary Rep

Dr. Karen Johnson, Dir of Curriculum and Accountability

Community Rep:

Guests: Janet Arnold, Eknara Dassanarayake, Paige McEnery, Kyler Johnson and 5 online viewers

Meeting was called to order at 5: 43

Pledge

Recite Mission and Vision Statements

Introductions

Determine Quorum

Motion made to approve minutes from November 17, 2021 Motion seconded and approved by all

### **Guest Speakers**

Student Advisory Committee – Eknara, Paige and Kyler

Talked about what they have been working on.

They meet once a week and attend SAC BOD DEI Curriculum, PTO

11 people currently on committee

In the spring they will work on initiatives that aren't finished

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Plan on working with Nicole Bostel about school transparency because of miscommunication among students on certain subjects, going to be working on staff hiring, and mental health.

Finals week is hard as some high schoolers have up to 4 finals in one day. Discussion about going to Finals Week Schedule (like LPS and other DCSD schools).

Mentorship program for new teachers was mentioned and student advisory would like to know more, (induction). STEM is one of the few schools who have an approved induction program. Dr. J went over the program as a broad overview. Typically a district runs an induction, not necessarily the school.

### **Standing Reports:**

Director Report by Dr. Karen Johnson:

Dr. Johnson brought up maybe having a student rep for SAC

### School Updates

Parent Survey Overview: 447 responses. Went over the responses and break downs. Lots of comments. Need to delve into data more.

Review of Budget for Student Experiences: Department Budgets (each dept has between 7-10k) goes directly to the classroom, field trips (scholarships), graduation (7500.00 includes the beginning of the year), prom (7500.00 ticket sales, after prom, enrichment (503B sometimes get grants) , athletics (45k including paying for coaches), sources of strength, student Government (Secondary earns money from ticket sales, school pays for sponsor), School store, year book and more

Discussion about which categories still need more in depth discussion

Discussion about shift in culture where sports are a bigger part than they have been, but don't want to lose focus on STEM. Discussion tabled. Needs followup in a few months

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Student advisory suggested doing middle school sports

Teacher Report:

Elementary: by Samantha Liebenow

This week they are finalizing grades

Hidden elves games going on which kids found fun

Currently in the middle of spirit week for Elementary

End of semester celebrations tomorrow (12/16/21)

Socio Emotional learning still going on through the Second Step Program

Secondary: no report

DAC Report: By Bernadette Amaya

Feb 17 at Rock Canyon is the Winter Forum time TBD

Still interviewing for parent members...10 interested, 2 spots

Meeting tomorrow (12/16/21)

PTO Report: Dr. Johnson

BOD Report by Carla Gustafson:

1/29 Nerds Night Out

Student Government wants to support and boost the clubs

NHS, 32 members

Wish Week March

Jim Hinkle audit report

Carletta Stewart – website updated, communication pathway for grievances is through her, she reports to Dr. Eucker that she is working through grievances and if Dr. Eucker needs to know she will let her know or if Roy needs to know etc. If teacher has grievance, first go to supervisor, if that doesn't work, email to Carletta through confidential email and she will handle the grievance.

She tells Dr. Eucker if Dr. Eucker needs to be resolved with Dr. Eucker

Held staff sessions last week about grievances and the pathway

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Replication Sterling Ranch area interest meeting. Another one next year early, IF they go forward, working to submit a letter of intent in March. It will not be a K-12 at opening.

104+ covid cases since beginning of school

County Commissioner meeting unanimously approved gym

Went over virtual plan if needed, with one improvement making sure attendance procedures are clear  
Christina Wu went over crisis support at school.

DEI Report by Jason O'Rourke

Heritage Club being started at STEM

creating website that will highlight different cultural things at STEM

Does STEM have a clear equity policy? Carla will put that on her list for her policy committee.

Community Report: none

### **New Business:**

SAC has been asked to get community members to go see Evolv system (same date as next SAC)  
bring unbiased info back. Then we could get a pulse.

Need some people who are against system, some who are for it

SAC Subcommittee for Evolv system -

SAC Subcommittee for Driveline – tabled. Some parents will be getting trained on cross-walkers

January SAC meeting proposed location Center for Strength – Evolv conflicts

Follow up on partnering with Parent Trust Strategic Plan Committee - tabled

### **Open Forum:**

no public comment

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Next SAC is January 19, 2021 at 5:30

Motion to adjourn at 7:49 pm. Motion seconded and passed

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