

Welcome to



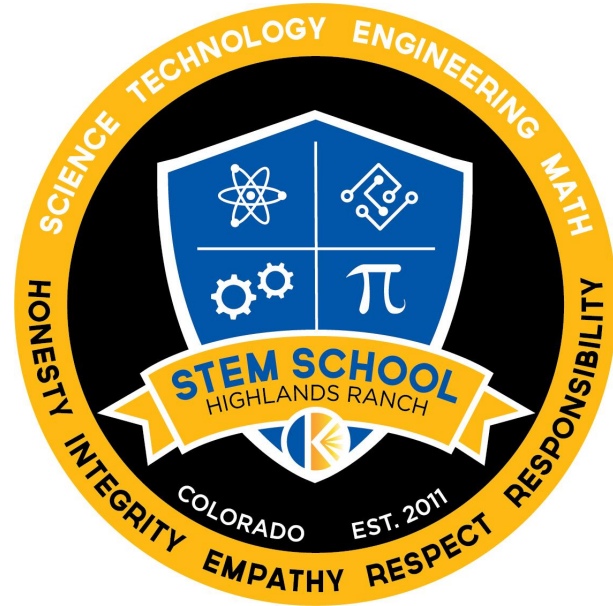
STEM SCHOOL

HIGHLANDS RANCH

Never Stop Innovating



Home of the **SPARTANS**



General Information

Our Mission - Never Stop Innovating.

Our Vision - 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.

Our Goal - Our goal is not only to prepare students to thrive in the constant world of reinvention, but to lead it.

Middle School Administration



Ryan Alsup
High School
Director



Dr. Jistine Harrison
Director of Student
Support



Parag Patel
6-12 Dean of
Students



LynAnn Kovalesky
Executive Director
(K-12)

About Mr. Alsup

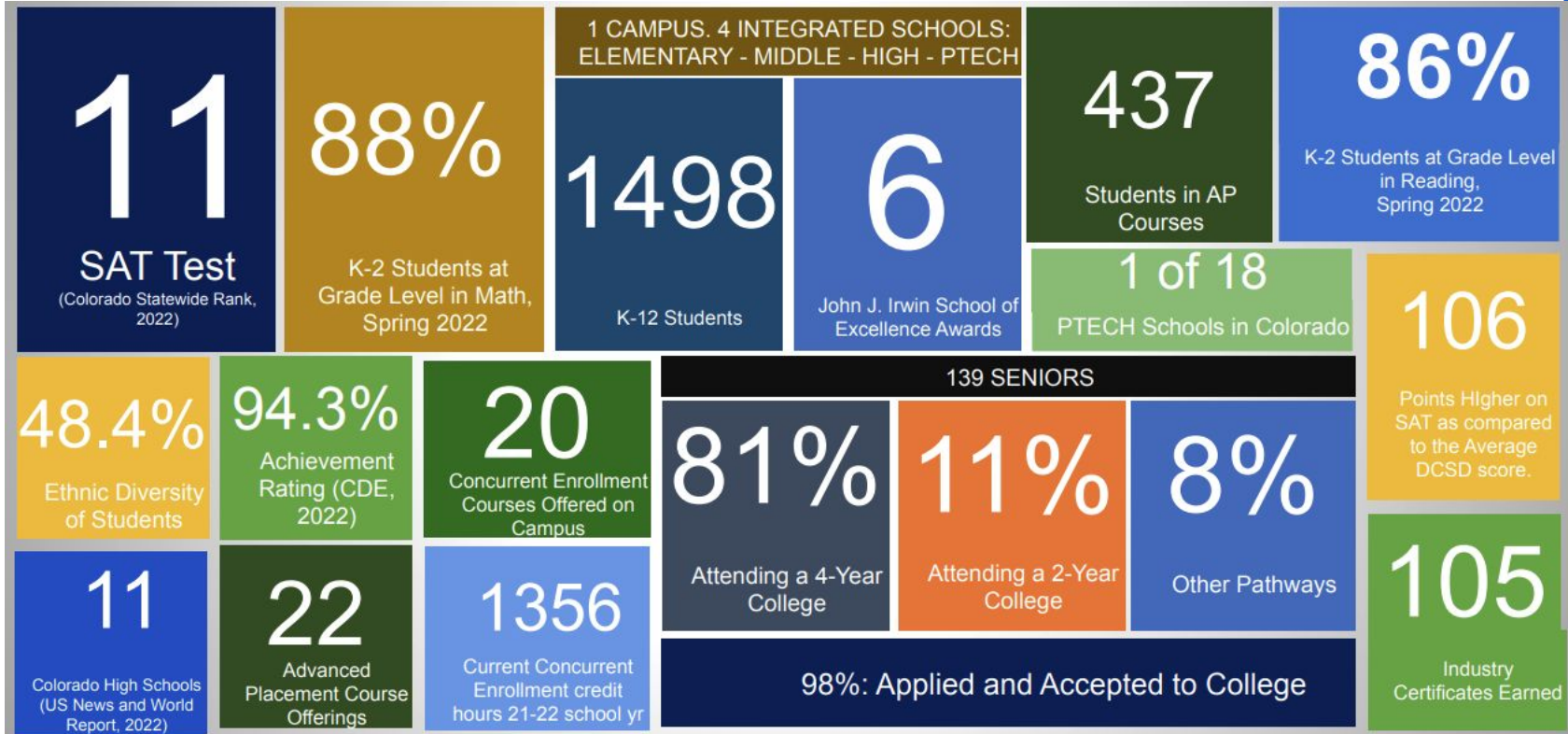
- 23rd year in Education
 - 5 years as a Social Studies Teacher at Highlands Ranch HS
 - 17 years in administration serving as a dean, assistant principal, athletic director, principal, and the past two years as the High School Director at STEM!
- I love my family! I've been happily married for 26 years, and have two amazing daughters.

About STEM School Highland Ranch

2023 - Niche Rankings

- Best Public High Schools in Douglas County - **1 of 25**
- Best College Prep Public High School in Colorado - **6 of 343**
 - Average SAT- 1340
 - Average ACT- 30
- Best Public High School in Colorado- **21 of 343**

Highlights by the numbers



STEM School Highlands Ranch

- Innovation
- Rigor
- PBL - Problem Based Learning
- Student Centered
- Formula for Character




What is a PBL School?

Gold Standard PBL

Seven Essential Project Design Elements



Safety First!

- Raptor guest registration
 - Security cameras
 - Full time School Resource Officer
 - Full time Security Guard
 - Safety Drills
 - Multiple Mental Health Providers
 - STEM Resource Center
 - Evolv system - AI Metal Detector - Pilot Program
- 

Typical School Day

- 4 classes each day
 - Monday/Wednesday: **BLUE DAY**- Periods 2,4,6,8
 - Tuesday/Thursday: **GOLD DAY**- Periods 3,5,7,9
 - Friday: **SILVER DAY** - ALL Periods - skinny schedule
- Access: two days a week
 - Study hall
 - Socioemotional programs
 - Office hours
 - Assemblies
- Lunch: Daily - During 6th/7th hour - 30 minutes
- When your student needs help with something:
 - Counselors are available and our mental health team
 - Teachers have office hours (Access and after school)
 - Student can get help from study hall supervisors
 - After school tutoring available through student groups

Calendars/Schedules

We follow the DCSD
Academic Calendar

[Secondary Bell Schedule](#)

All calendars and bell
schedules can be found
under the *Calendar* link
at www.stemk12.org

Classroom Expectations

- ✓ Be prepared, on time, and ready for every class.
- ✓ Check your grades regularly on Canvas.
- ✓ Talk to your teachers regularly about your grades and assignments.
- ✓ Cell phones are put away or put in door pockets
- ✓ Advocate for yourself.
- ✓ Attend teacher office hours.
- ✓ Engage and collaborate in class.
- ✓ Respect yourself and others in the classroom.
- ✓ Be kind.

Canvas

- Our online LMS that is used to assign and turn in assignments online. This should be accessed daily to help organize and prioritize course load and deadlines for all assignments for every class.
- Our communications department developed the following tutorials that can also be found on the counseling page at STEMk12.org
- Tutorial Links:
 - Parent tutorial: <https://youtu.be/8b6Ys-piwrE>
 - Student tutorial: <https://youtu.be/8b6Ys-piwrE>

Tips for Success for Your Student

- Self-awareness
 - Attending class and showing up on time
- Self-motivation
 - Reaching out to teachers- advocating for themselves, attending teacher office hours
 - Daily classwork and homework completion
- Problem-solving and planning ahead
 - Organization- planner, reminders through Canvas, reminder (alerts) on phone
 - Check Canvas daily

Student Support Team

- 2 Middle School Counselors
- 2 High School Counselors
- Counseling Assistant
- MS School Psychologist
- HS Social Worker
- College and Career Counselor
- Career Discovery Coordinator
- Learning Support Services (Special Education)
- English Language Development Teachers

Teacher Support Team

Director of Professional Development	Michelle Gasser
Gifted and Talented Coordinator	Jon Jennings
K-12 PBL Specialist	Mackenzie Harper
Instructional Specialist MTSS Coordinator	Carissa Elliott Karen Cook

Teacher Support: Year At A Glance

- 3 full time and 1 part time Teacher Support members
- 16 Mentors
- Induction and Alternative Licensure support

Support Includes:

- PBL Development
- Instructional Pedagogy
- Standards Based Learning Development and implementation
- Unit Planning
- Feedback and Observations
- Coverage for teachers to observe others
- Co-teaching/model teaching
- Instructional Technology Support
- Curriculum Implementation
- Differentiation
- Resource Procurement
- Quick Breaks

Clubs and Activities

Ms. FitzRoy - Enrichment Coordinator



[Click here for details](#)

These are subject to change for the 23/24 School year; current offerings and additional information can be located on our [Enrichment page](#).

Alpine Club

Best Robotics

Comedy Club

CyberPatriot

DECA/FBLA

First Robotics Club (FRC)

Girls' Persist

Magic the Gathering Club

Ornithology Club

Star Wars Club

SteMed

Theater Production

Technology Student Association (TSA)

ULA Payload Rocket/Electronics

High School Athletics

Mr. Alsup, Athletic Director, Mrs. Rost, Athletic Assistant

Fall Sports

- Boys Golf
- Boys Soccer
- Boys Cross Country
- Girls Cross Country
- Girls Volleyball
- eSports (co-ed)

Winter Sports

- Boys Basketball
- Girls Basketball (if we have enough girls!)
- eSports (co-ed)

Spring Sports

- Boys Volleyball
- Boys Lacrosse
(partnered with HRHS)
- Boys and Girls Track
- Girls Soccer
- eSports (co-ed)

High School School

Graduation Requirements

Department	Standard Diploma	STEM Scholar
English <i>**Most colleges require 4 years of english, not just 4 credits**</i>	4	4
Mathematics <ul style="list-style-type: none">Algebra II is required for graduation <i>**Most colleges require 4 years of math, not just 4 credits**</i>	4	4
Social Studies <ul style="list-style-type: none">US Govt is required for graduationUS History is strongly recommended	3.5	3.5
Science	3	3

Graduation Requirements continued...

World Language (must be the same language)	2	2
STEM Electives	3	7
Fine Arts	1	1
PE/Health	1	1
General Electives	2.5	4.5
TOTAL	24	30

Other Graduation Requirements

Other Graduation Requirements	Standard Diploma	STEM Scholar
Community Service Requirements	20 Hours	100 Hours
ICAP Completion	required	required
AP/CE Courses	n/a	At least two courses
GPA Requirement	n/a	3.5 or Higher
Demonstration of Competency on Exam (see explanation and exam list below)	required	required

High School AP and CE Courses

Advanced Placement and Concurrent Enrollment Courses are college level courses designed to challenge our students and allow them to earn college credit.



High School Advanced Placement Courses

- AP 2D Art and Design
- AP 3D Art and Design
- AP Biology
- AP Calc AB
- AP Calc BC
- AP Chemistry
- AP Computer Science A
- AP Drawing
- AP English Literature and Comp
- AP English Language and Comp
- AP French Language and Culture
- AP Spanish Language and Culture
- AP Human Geography
- AP Physics 1
- AP Physics C electricity and magnetism
- AP Physics C Mechanics
- AP Psychology
- AP Statistics
- AP US Government and Politics
- AP US History
- AP World History
- AP European History

College Credit can be earned based on the AP test score.

High School Concurrent Enrollment

- Concurrent Enrollment are college level courses taught here at school.
 - Courses earn both high school and college credit through ACC, Metro, and UC Denver.
 - We offer more CE courses than any other district school in DCSD, and students can earn an Associates' Degree of Arts while at STEM!
 - Instructors must be highly qualified to teach the college level courses, typically requiring a minimum of a Master's Degree in that area.
- We offer CE courses in the following departments:
 - English
 - Computer Science
 - Engineering

Career Discovery- Michelle Gasser and Nicole Ryan

Colorado College Pathways (CE Courses)

- Biology-Pre-Med (Any Colorado College)
- Computer Science (CSU, CU, or Colorado School of Mines)
- Aerospace (CU transfer)
- Biomedical Engineering (CU transfer)

Please see our [HS Academic Planning Guide](#) for course descriptions and prerequisite information. www.stemk12.org

Career Discovery- Michelle Gasser and Nicole Ryan

P-Tech- STEM was one of the first high schools in Colorado to offer the P-Tech program. While at STEM, students can earn:

- Associate of Applied Science in Robotics and Automation
- Associate of Applied Science in Cybersecurity

Within these degrees, we have three different pathways

- Robotics and Automation
- Cybersecurity
- And new for 2023/2024- Game design

Please see our [HS Academic Planning Guide](#) for course descriptions and prerequisite information. www.stemk12.org

Career Discovery- Michelle Gasser and Nicole Ryan

- **Internships (ILOP)**

- Students in 11th and 12th grade can earn credit for internships and apprenticeships. This does not need to be part of P-Tech or CE but can be used to enhance those pathways.
- Students choose the industry/business they would like to intern with.
- Only school in DSCD to be able to offer this program.

Please see our [HS Academic Planning Guide](#) for course descriptions and prerequisite information. www.stemk12.org

Student Check-in Registration

- NO "physical" STUDENT CHECK-IN.
- Everything will be done electronically.
- Student schedules will be posted in the Infinite Campus portal during summer, and parents will receive an email with important forms and information regarding the beginning of the school year.
- For more information regarding current student check-in, visit our website: [Enrollment/Current Students](#).

Become involved in the STEM Community

Committees


- SAC - School Accountability Committee
- PTO - Parent Teacher Organization
- STEMk12.org > Parents > PTO or SAC (website)
- New to STEM- Athletic Booster Club

Volunteer Hours

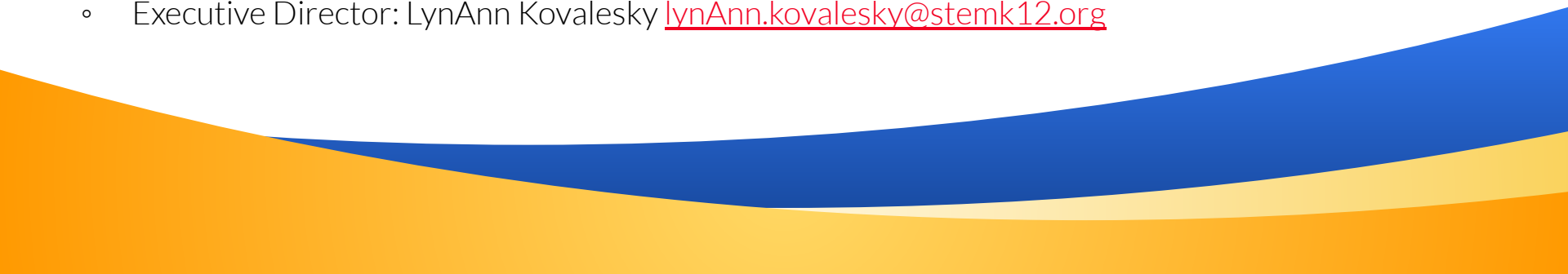
- 30 hours per family
 - Sign up at STEMk12.org > Parents > Get Involved
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Become involved in the STEM Community

Volunteer:

- Lunch Room
 - Classrooms
 - Parent Panels
 - After School Events
 - Enrichment Clubs
 - Theatre/Drama Performances
- 

Sources of Communication

- Weekly Newsletters - parents and students
 - Website - www.stemk12.org
 - Facebook and Instagram STEM School Highlands Ranch
 - Twitter: @stemschoolHR
 - Phone - (303) 683 - 7836
 - Communication Pathway on website
 - Middle School Director: Maura Ridder Maura.ridder@stemk12.org
 - High School Director: Ryan Alsup ryan.alsup@stemk12.org
 - Director of Student Support: jistine.harrison@stemk12.org
 - Executive Director: LynAnn Kovalesky lynAnn.kovalesky@stemk12.org
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Questions?

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