

**RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF EDUCATION
OF
DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT RE-1**

(Denying the STEM School Highlands Ranch Charter Replication Application)

WHEREAS, The Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) Charter School, also known as the STEM School Highlands Ranch (hereinafter referred to as “STEM” or the “Applicant”) is a charter school of Douglas County School District (“District”) that is presently authorized to operate one K-12 charter school in the District pursuant to the Charter Schools Act, C.R.S. § 22-30.5-101 *et. seq.* (the “Act”); and

WHEREAS, on or about April 1, 2025, STEM submitted a replication application (the “Replication Application”) to the District requesting authorization from the District’s Board of Education (“Board”) to open a second K-12 charter school (the “School”) in the District; and

WHEREAS, the District’s Charter Application Review Team (the “CART”) and District staff have reviewed the Replication Application; and

WHEREAS, District staff has recommended to the Board that the Board deny the Replication Application for the reasons set forth in their written recommendation; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Education has considered the Replication Application, District Policy, the Act, submissions from the public, information from CART, and the written recommendation from District staff.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board that denial of the Replication Application is in the best interests of the District, its students and parents, and the community, and that the Replication Application is hereby denied for the following reasons:

1. The Applicant did not provide any evidence of demand for School.
 - a. The Applicant did not submit any verifiable letters of intent with its Application.
 - b. The Applicant did not submit any verification that there was evidence of demand for the School.
 - c. The Application indicated that its targeted student population crossed multiple school districts. The application did not identify a clear outreach plan in any particular area. A new campus in Castle Rock or in another location within the Douglas County School District may not be accessible to students from other school districts.
 - d. The demographic evidence provided by Applicant in the Application does not align with the demographic reports secured by the District. Further, the Applicant’s recognition of residential and population growth within Douglas County School District does not viably support enrollment in the proposed School.

2. The Applicant did not provide evidence that the plan for the School is economically sound.
 - a. As noted, the Applicant has not demonstrated that it can realize student enrollment numbers to fiscally sustain School.
 - b. Applicant's 5-year budget for School does not reflect any contingency funds.
3. Applicant did not identify a geographic location or viable campus location for School.
4. Applicant did not submit any facilities plan for School.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the School District would welcome an application in the future when there is adequate interest and a demonstration of demand for a second K-12 STEM Charter School located within the District.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Superintendent or designee is hereby directed to provide a copy of this Resolution to the Colorado Department of Education within fifteen (15) days of its adoption date.

PASSED AND ADOPTED this ____ day of May, 2025.

DOUGLAS COUNTY SCHOOL DISTRICT
RE-1

[SEAL]

By _____
Christy Williams, President

Attest:

By _____
Becky Myers, Secretary