

A RESOLUTION PROCLAIMING AUGUST 2017 TO BE
SCIENCE, TECHNOLOGY, ENGINEERING AND MATH
(STEM) EDUCATION MONTH IN THE CITY OF
COLORADO SPRINGS

WHEREAS, our nation ranks 24th in science and 38th in math worldwide, which threatens our ability to address the biggest problems our country will face in the future, such as energy, health, food supply, and water accessibility; and

WHEREAS, Colorado Springs as well as the rest of Colorado is struggling with a severe shortage of skilled workers and had 15.3 job openings for every unemployed worker in STEM last year, and where nationally there is a 3 million STEM worker shortfall; and

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council recognize and appreciate the efforts of Colorado Springs businesses, schools, and non-profits to build and sustain the levels of innovation that STEM industries demand today and in the future, including local examples such as:

- The Center for STEM Education at UCCS motivating and exposing students to a variety of STEM activities, careers and programs with the goal to increase STEM engagement among students, teachers and parents;
- The Colorado Springs Boys & Girls Club Center of Innovation, a technology, engineering, and math lab open to all 1,300 members of the local club giving them access to 3-D printers, projectors, robotics equipment and supercomputers;
- See the Change USA helping to train teachers and provide instruction on how to teach age appropriate physics to middle school students and therefore, are laying down the fundamentals of science at an early age in Harrison School District 2;
- Colorado Springs School District 11's commitment to STEM education through the study of science and mathematics and the meaningful integration of technology and engineering;
- Colorado College's "Whiz Bang Science," a summer program entering its 41st year of operation for students in grades K-12 interested in science and engineering, featuring hands-on, exploratory, and experience-based activities;
- The Challenger Learning Center's STEM programs, including summer camps focused on robotics, coding, space exploration and rocket science and other popular outreach events that attract thousands of students, parents, educators and members of the public to learn through hands-on activities;
- The National Cybersecurity Center's AFA CyberCamps program created to inspire students to pursue STEM related activities outside of the school year;
- St. Mary's Project Lead the Way engineering program which is composed of world-class curriculum, high-quality professional development for teachers, and an engaged network of community, industry and university leaders; and Middle

- School STEM camp that includes critical thinking and problem solving challenges around the areas of robotics, programming and outer space;
- The Air Force Association, the National Defense Industrial Association, the Armed Forces Communications-Electronics Association raising thousands of dollars annually for STEM scholarships;

WHEREAS, the Mayor and City Council recognize and endorse further initiatives to facilitate local, state and national STEM education effort such as the placement of a one-meter telescope on the summit of Pikes Peak; and

WHEREAS, August is the start of a new school year in Colorado Springs.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF COLORADO SPRINGS:

That August 2017 is hereby proclaimed Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM) Education Month in the City of Colorado Springs and the Mayor and City Council calls upon the people of Colorado Springs to encourage the efforts of the City's schools, students, employers and citizens to explore the STEM fields build the skills that will propel our community into the future.

Dated at Colorado Springs, Colorado, this 8th day of August, 2017.

Council President

ATTEST:

Sarah B. Johnson, City Clerk