

Iowa State Board of Education

Executive Summary

June 18, 2026

Agenda Item: Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Innovation High School Amendment

State Board Goal: Goal 5

State Board Role/Authority: The State Board of Education is the sole authorizer of Iowa charter schools Iowa Code section 256E.1(4).

Presenter(s): None (Consent Agenda)

Attachment(s): One

Recommendation: It is recommended that the State Board approve the amendment request for STEM Innovation High School.

Background: After authorization, “an enforceable and renewable charter school contract shall be executed between the founding group and the State Board setting forth the academic and operational performance expectations and measures by which the charter school will be evaluated” pursuant to Iowa Code sections 256E.9 and 256E.10 and the other rights and duties of the parties of Iowa Code subsection 256E.6(1). As the authorizing agent for the State Board, the Department of Education has reviewed the charter school contract amendment request and provides a recommendation.

STEM Innovation High School has submitted contract amendment language, rationale, a desired outcome and evidence of a public meeting.

Iowa Charter School Amendment Request Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) Innovation High School

The *Iowa Charter School Amendment Request Form* is completed by an authorized Charter School that requests consideration of a proposed contract amendment to the State Board of Education.

1. Requested Amendment

A. Cite existing contract language to be amended.	B. Provide specific proposed amended language.
Section 2.4 Target Location. The school shall be established at the River's Edge in Council Bluffs, within the Council Bluffs Community School District boundaries. This location shall not be changed or amended unless specifically approved by the authorizer.	The school's physical address shall be the Council Bluffs metropolitan area, with a temporary location at the district office (300 W. Broadway, Suite 1600, Council Bluffs, IA 51503).

2. Rationale Describe the rationale for the language revision from 1A to 1B. Provide sufficient detail to explain the need for the amendment.

The original location on the Riverfront is no longer available for purchase by the district. The district is currently in negotiations for a separate parcel of land.

3. Desired Outcome Describe the desired outcome of the amendment.

The district desires to establish the physical address of the STEM Innovation High School as that of the district office so that a school code can be assigned, which is necessary to continue raising funds and applying for grants.

4. Best Practices Describe how previous practices that led to the established contract language (1A) will change to support the current amended language (1B). How will the charter ensure effective implementation of the proposed amendment?

The district will use the district address until the new site is fully in the district's possession.

5. Documentation

- a. The amendment is approved by the charter school governing board (meeting agenda and minutes reflecting approval of the amendment request).
- b. A public meeting with stakeholders addressing the proposed change/s to the charter contract. Note that a designated public comment specific to the amendment on the governing board agenda may fulfill the public meeting requirement. Include names and roles of each individual that participated in public comment and a summary of their input.

See the April 28, 2026, board meeting agenda and resolution - [GBAmendment Approval](#). No one made public comments on the resolution either at the open comment at the beginning of the meeting or when the resolution was presented. Superintendent Murillo answered board questions regarding the amendment. Voting board members are listed on the resolution.