



CEC Governing Board Meeting

April 16, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m.

Join the meeting now

Dial in by phone +1 970-462-9165 Conference ID 641 920 348#

Call to Order – Terry called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. with the reading of the Mission Statement.

Mission Statement

Colorado Early Colleges' mission is to prepare a diverse population of students for life by developing their mind, body and character through rigorous academic studies, and character development activities in cooperation with the community we serve.

All students, regardless of background or skill level, will have the opportunity to pursue a growth mindset that will allow them to achieve mastery and will demonstrate that they can succeed in school, in college, and in their chosen career.

No exceptions. No excuses.

Attendees:

- Board of Governors: Laura Calhoun, Terry McDonald, Arthur Cyphers, Jessie Mathis, Larry Mohr, and Fish Abrhaley
- Chief Executive Officer: Dr. Jill Gildea
- Governing Board Liaison: Brenda Rhodes
- Other guests: Stephanie C., Cameron M., Stephanie G., Aaron P., Jennifer D., Mark M., Michael M., Melissa T., Cody P., Jennifer B., and Mel P.

Approval of Agenda – Art made a motion to approve the agenda; Jessie 2nd. Approved.

Correspondence/Board Comments - None

Board Committee Reports

- CEC Governance Committee
 - Terry acknowledged the two new Board Director candidates up for election at the meeting. He also informed the Board that the updated bylaws were sent to Dustin Spark, CEC legal counsel, for legal review.

Administration Report – Dr. Jill Gildea

- CSI Charter Contract Renewal Presentation – Michael McManus, Authorization and Accountability Manager, CSI
 - Michael reviewed the CSI charter contract renewal process including an overview of the renewal timeline and submission requirements.
- Preliminary 2026 Graduation Achievement Report – Dr. Jill Gildea
 - Dr. Gildea presented a summary of CEC's Class of 2026 graduation achievements:
 - 832 graduates.

- 810 students (97% of graduates) earning at least one graduation achievement.
 - 472 students (57% of graduates) earning at least one associate degree.
 - 606 students (73% of graduates) earning at least one professional certificate.
 - 2 students on track to graduate with a bachelor's degree.

Public Comment - None

The Board welcomes Public Comment. Please keep comments to 3 minutes or less per person. Should you have a question for the Board that requires a response, please submit your question via email to the CEC Governing Board President, Laura Calhoun, at cecgoverningboard@coloradoearlycolleges.org who will then respond to your question via email.

Board Discussion and Action

- Approve March 19, 2026 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes
 - Jessie made a motion to approve the March 19, 2026 CEC Governing Board Meeting Minutes; Terry 2nd. Approved
- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16A Electing Jennifer Bailey to CEC Board
 - Resolution 2026.04.16A Electing Jennifer Bailey to CEC Board was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16B Electing Stephanie Christian to CEC Board
 - Resolution 2026.04.16B Electing Stephanie Christian to CEC Board was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16C Approving Intent to Renew CEC Aurora Charter
 - Resolution 2026.04-16C Approving Intent to Renew CEC Aurora Charter was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16D Approving Intent to Renew CEC Colorado Springs Charter
 - Resolution 2026.04-16D Approving Intent to Renew CEC Colorado Springs Charter was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes

- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16E Approving Intent to Renew CEC Fort Collins Charter
 - Resolution 2026.04.16E Approving Intent to Renew CEC Fort Collins Charter was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve Resolution 2026.04.16F Approving Intent to Renew CEC Online Campus Charter
 - Resolution 2026.04.16F Approving Intent to Renew CEC Online Campus Charter was approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve CEC Student Charges and 2026-2027 Student Charges Schedule policy
 - Board discussion centered on additional clarity on why fees changed and the importance of letting families know about the changes as soon as possible.
 - Larry made a motion to approve CEC Student Charges and 2026-2027 Student Charges Schedule policy; Art 2nd. Approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve CEC Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices policy
 - Dr. Gildea informed the Board that this is a new Board policy required by CSI to be in place by June 1, 2026. She and her team talked with students about their experiences with cell phones in school and did a survey of educators, parents, and students to help draft the policy. Dr. Gildea explained that the policy takes into account middle school students while giving flexibility to high school students taking colleges classes.
 - Art made a motion to approve CEC Student Use of Cell Phones and Other Personal Electronic Devices policy; Terry 2nd. Approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes
- Approve CEC Colorado Springs Homeschool Academy 2026-27 School Year Calendar
 - Terry made a motion to approve CEC Colorado Springs Homeschool Academy 2026-27 School Year Calendar; Art 2nd. Approved by the following roll call vote:
 - Laura – Yes
 - Terry – Yes
 - Art – Yes
 - Jessie – Yes
 - Larry – Yes
 - Fish - Yes

Other Business

- Call for Nominations for Election of Board Directors
 - Board Director with Term Expiring May 2026
 - Terry McDonald
 - Elections held during May 28, 2026 Board meeting
 - Terry agreed to run for another 3-year term.
- Call For Nominations for Board Officers and Board Directors
 - Call For Board Officer Nominations
 - Board President:
 - Board Vice President:
 - Board Secretary:
 - Board Treasurer:
 - Elections held during May 28, 2026 Board meeting
 - Several Board Directors requested additional time to consider putting their names forward for possible election as a CEC Governing Board Officer.
 - Brenda asked that Board Directors let her know if they are putting their names forward for election no later than Friday, May 15, 2026 as Board Officer elections will take place at the March 28, 2026 Governing Board meeting.
- 2026 CEC Promotion and Graduation Ceremonies
 - CEC Colorado Springs Middle School Promotion
 - Wednesday, May 13, 2026 @ 8:30 a.m., CECCS MS Basecamp
 - CEC Fort Collins Middle School Promotion
 - Wednesday, May 13, 2026 @ 5:30 p.m., CECFC High School King Auditorium
 - CEC Online Campus Middle School Promotion
 - Friday, May 15, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m. (virtual/recorded)
 - CEC Fort Collins High School Graduation
 - Monday, May 18, 2026 @ 10:30 a.m., Blue Arena, Loveland
 - CEC Online Campus High School Graduation
 - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m. (virtual/recorded)
 - CEC Colorado Springs High School Graduation
 - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 11:00 a.m., UCCS
 - CEC Windsor Middle School Promotion
 - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m., CECFC High School King Auditorium
 - CEC Windsor High School Graduation
 - Tuesday, May 19, 2026 @ 7:30 p.m., CECFC High School King Auditorium
 - CEC Douglas County North High School Graduation
 - Wednesday, May 20, 2026 @ 10:00 a.m., Arapahoe Fairgrounds Event Center
 - CEC Aurora High School Graduation
 - Wednesday, May 20, 2026 @ 3:00 p.m., Arapahoe Fairgrounds Event Center
 - CEC Castle Rock High School Graduation
 - Friday, May 22, 2026 @ Noon, Douglas County Event Center

Future Meetings of the Governing Board

- April 18, 2026 @ 8:30 a.m. Board Retreat at CEC DC North
- May 28, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. Virtually Via Teams
- No June Meeting
- July 16, 2026 @ 6:00 p.m. Virtually Via Teams

Adjourned

- Jessie made a motion to adjourn the April 16, 2026 CEC Governing Board meeting; Art 2nd.
- Laura adjourned the meeting at 7:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Brenda Rhodes, Governing Board Liaison

Signed,

Fish Abrhaley

Fish Abrhaley, CEC Governing Board Secretary