

**South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics
Board of Trustees Meeting
401 Railroad Avenue
Hartsville, SC
January 17, 2012
Minutes**

A meeting of the Board of Trustees of the South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics began at noon on January 17, 2012 at the South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics in Hartsville, SC.

Governing Board members present:

Dr. Leroy Davis
Mr. Asa Godbold

Governing Board members present via conference call:

Dr. Helen Doerpinghaus
Mr. Dwight Floyd
Dr. Doris Helms
Dr. Michael Raley
Dr. Mark Sothmann

Faculty and staff attending:

Dr. Murray Brockman
Mr. Ernie Boyd
Mrs. Jane Etta Bryan
Mrs. Susan Coker
Dr. Alison Evans
Mr. Randy LaCross
Dr. Jerome Reyes
Mr. Jon Shannon

The official Board meeting was preceded by four student presentations. Students gave an overview of life at the Governor's School which included the positive experiences of strong academics, sports, leadership, extracurricular activities, student activities on and off campus, community service, and summer research experiences. Students also shared their college and career goals.

Item 1-2: Call to Order and Roll Call:

Dr. Davis called the meeting to order at noon. Roll was taken and board members were reminded of the next meeting on April 12, 2012 at the University of South Carolina in Columbia and also on June 14, 2012 via conference call.

Item 3: Approval of Minutes

Dr. Davis asked for a motion to accept the September 22, 2011 draft of minutes as written. Motion was made by Dr. Raley, seconded by Mr. Godbold, and passed unanimously by the board.

Item 4: Election of the Chairman of the Board of Trustees

Statement: Dr. Richard Chapman has resigned his position as Board Chairman, his term having expired and other business pressing. The Board will elect a Chair from among its members.

Board Action: Dr. Davis requested nominations from the Board. Dr. Brockman nominated Dr. Davis for the position of Chairman, Board of Trustees. Nomination was seconded by Dr. Raley and no additional nominees were presented. Mr. Godbold motioned for Dr. Davis to be reelected by acclamation, seconded by Dr. Helms. Vote was taken and Dr. Davis was unanimously elected by the board.

Item 5: President's Report

Dr. Brockman began his report by complimenting all GSSM students. New programs and services include Economics & Finance, Counseling, PULSE, and Engineering Accelerate.

GSSM continues to plan for growth. The budget supports the hiring of 10 faculty, 8 staff, and 1 VPAA to support an increased student body of 216 students. Ten search committees have been formed and the status of faculty applications is positive.

Student Support: Refresher summer courses will be recommended for some students prior to entry to GSSM. A system of tutorials will be available for students seeking extra help.

Faculty Support: Establish mentoring/peer support network, revise faculty handbook, and prepare for the identification and correction of issues.

Legislative Strategy:

Dr. Brockman reported that he, Kim Bowman and Ernie Boyd have laid the groundwork for an additional request for funding. GSSM is currently funded to grow to 216 students, adding 10 faculty. GSSM has requested an additional \$3.1 million/year annual budget. This would take our total budget to \$8.4 million/year and enable GSSM to grow and hire 9 more faculty, 9 more staff and grow to the capacity of the school which is 300 students in residence. There is strong support in the Senate and House and we anticipate a visit by the House Ways and Means Public Education Sub-Committee on approximately February 7, 2012. The board may recall that GSSM received an additional \$2.50 million last year which brought the budget to \$5.28 million.

Dr. Brockman distributed a confidential list of prospective GSSM Trustee candidates. There is a need for 1 candidate from each Congressional district and there are openings. Also, Dr. Brockman expressed a desire to add an Endowed Chair to the Board. Any comments, additions, etc., were requested and welcomed. At some time, a slate will be presented to the Governor.

Dr. Davis commended Dr. Brockman for the list of strong, qualified, prospective candidates. New board members would add strength to the board and contribute to the growth phase of GSSM.

Item 6: Facilities and Finance Report

Mr. Godbold stated that the board will have one item to vote on from this committee. He then presented the floor to Mr. Boyd.

Mr. Boyd began by stating that the Consent Agenda contains information on the operational status through December 2011 and we are on target for all of our budget goals.

Mr. Boyd reminded board members that the student meal plan was discussed at the January 13, 2011

board meeting.

Mr. Boyd reviewed the current student meal plan. Total cost of the meal plan is about \$3000/student/year. Parents are charged \$2000/student/year, and GSSM subsidizes each student at \$1000/student/year. No student is denied participation due to inability to pay. GSSM provides financial aid, time payments, and waivers.

Growth plans are built around the \$2000 Student Meal Fee amount. Information was provided regarding food vendor costs. GSSM is purchasing new kitchen equipment to help with efficiency and student growth.

Motion from Finance Committee: The motion from the Finance Committee is that the Board of Trustees approve no change in student meal fees for 2012 – 2013, maintaining the student meal fee @ \$2000 per student resident.

Action: Dr. Davis recognized the motion from the Finance Committee and opened the floor for questions and discussion. Vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Item 7: Academic Affairs & Outreach Committee Report: Engineering Accelerate

Dr. Brockman reported that he, Kim Bowman, and Randy LaCross have been working on a new statewide initiative of GSSM referred to as Engineering Accelerate. This pilot program would invite a select group of 10th grade students from around the state to join an advanced engineering program and complete the first year of a college engineering program during the last three years of high school. The program would partner with South Carolina colleges and universities that offer engineering programs and include Clemson, The Citadel, South Carolina State, and the University of South Carolina – Columbia.

Dr. Brockman provided an overview of the program which followed with board discussion. The discussion noted the desirability of the program, but with concerns noted regarding overlap and impact on the residential program, along with concerns about feasibility.

Dr. Davis summarized the discussion and concerns and called for a motion to approve the following:

- (1) Approval to hire a Project Director and Chief Engineer Instructor *
- (2) Approval for the development of a draft pilot curriculum**
- (3) Approval to seek pilot funding

*Project Director and Chief Engineer Instructor would meet with board to discuss concerns and provide frequent updates.

**The Board is not committing to pilot program beginning in 2013 at this time.

Dr. Helms made a motion to approve all three items, seconded by Dr. Raley and unanimously approved by the board.

Executive Session

Dr. Davis called for a motion to move into Executive Session. Motion made by Mr. Godbold and seconded by Dr. Raley. Motion was approved.

Return to Open Session

Dr. Davis announced that the Board was back in open session. During Executive Session, there was discussion of personnel matters. No votes were taken.

Due to time restrictions and on behalf of the board, Dr. Davis recommended that a special session be scheduled in order to hear the remaining presentations. Dr. Raley expressed an interest in the summer internships with endowed chairs and also economic entrepreneurship courses.

Consent Agenda Items

Dr. Davis asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda items. Mr. Godbold made a motion to approve, seconded by Dr. Raley, and unanimously approved by the board.

Other Business:

Dr. Davis stated that the board will take a vote on a compensation issue via e-mail and will do so expeditiously.

Mrs. Bryan reminded the board of the completion of State Ethics Forms by April 15, 2012. Board members will be reminded via e-mail.

In conclusion, Dr. Davis thanked the board and staff for their efforts in regards to GSSM.

Dr. Davis then asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion was made by Dr. Raley and seconded by Dr. Helms. Meeting adjourned at 2:16 p.m.

Dr. Leroy Davis, Chairman
Board of Trustees