

South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

Board of Trustees Meeting

Conference Call

May 29, 2020

Noon

Governing Board Members Present via Conference Call

Ms. Carolyne Williams, Chair, Presiding

Mr. Arthur Tompkins, Vice-Chair

Mr. Robert Brown

Dr. Joe Griffin, III

Dr. Rainey Knight

Dr. Chris Przirembel

Dr. Judith Salley

Mr. Lee Stogner

Dr. David Tedeschi

Dr. Cynthia Young

Guests Present via Conference Call:

Mr. Patrick Cleary, GSSM Alum

Jasmine Drain, Attorney

Vernie Williams, Attorney

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Ershela Sims

Mrs. Beth Dinndorf

Mr. Danny Dorsel

Mr. Brock Heron

Mr. Randy LaCross

Mr. Chris Lambert

Dr. Emily Mobley

Mr. Jon Shannon

Dr. Kathryn de Ridder Vignone

Mrs. Bridget Lloyd

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call:

Ms. Carolyne Williams, Chair, welcomed everyone and called the meeting to order at approximately 12:05 p.m. The roll was taken with a quorum present.

Item 2: Reminder of Future Board Meetings:

Ms. Williams reminded everyone of the upcoming Board meeting dates.

Thursday,	September 10, 2020	Hartsville	9:00 a.m.
Thursday,	November 19, 2020	Conference Call or Columbia	Noon

Item 3: Approval of the Board of Trustees meeting minutes from January 30, 2020.

Ms. Williams asked for a motion to approve the minutes of January 30, 2020, meeting the GSSM Board of Trustees. Motion to approve by Dr. Przirembel with an amendment to add Mr. Philip Willis, who was present as a guest, seconded by Dr. Tedeschi, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 4: Introductions – Ms.Carolyn Williams

Chairperson Williams introduced and welcomed Dr. Rainey Knight to the Board of Trustees.

Item 5: Executive Session – (Closed Session)

Ms. Williams called for a motion to convene into Executive Session at 12:10 p.m. for receipt of legal advice concerning the Interim President – Dr. Ershela Sims’ evaluation, the Presidential Search, Personnel Matters Concerning the Interim President’s Evaluation Instrument, and Contractual Matters Concerning the Interim President’s Employment Agreement.

Dr. Tedeschi approved the motion, Mr. Tompkins seconded the motion and unanimously approved by the Board.

Reconvene to Open Session:

Ms. Williams reconvened into the regular meeting at 1:20 p.m. The roll was taken, and a quorum was present. Ms. Williams stated that no action was taken during the Executive Session.

The following motions were made during the regular session.

In the matter regarding the Presidential Search - Dr. Przirembel made a motion to delay the President Search until the completion of the President’s evaluation. Mr. Tompkins seconded the motion and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 6: President’s Report – Dr. Ershela Sims

Dr. Sims’ report included a summary of the following updates.

- COVID-19 Response and Preparation
- Admissions and Enrollment Updates
 - Follow-up on the recruitment of students in minority communities and compare the acceptance yield at the next Board meeting.
- Personnel Updates
- IT and Facilities Operations Update
- Faculty Senate Update – Approval of Ratified Constitution
- Strategic Plan Updates
- May 30th – Graduation Ceremony will be held at Darlington Raceway
- June 3rd – Accelerate Virtual Completion Ceremony will be held via Livestream.

Item 7: Finance, Facilities and Operations – Mr. Art Tompkins ’92 and Mr. Brock Heron

Mr. Tompkins, Chair of the Finance Committee, deferred the floor to Mr. Heron. Mr. Heron discussed the budget. There was no action needed.

Item 8: Foundation Update – Mrs. Beth Dinndorf

Mrs. Dinndorf’s report included a summary of the following updates.

- Year-to-Date Fundraising totals
- Allocations to GSSM
- 2019-2020 Foundation Accomplishments

Item 9: Alumni Update: Mr. Patrick Cleary ’01

Mr. Cleary gave the following updates.

- Alumni are interested in supporting the school and rekindling connections.
- An Alumnus of the Year Award
- Townes Award Dinner
- Shane Farmer, Alumni Association New President

Item 10: New Business: None

Item 11: Approval of Consent Agenda:

Ms. Williams called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve by Mr. Tompkins and seconded by Mr. Brown, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 12: Approval of Strategic Plan Refresh:

Ms. Williams called for a motion to approve the Strategic Plan Refresh. Motion to approve by Dr. Prziembel, seconded by Mr. Stogner, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 13: Approval of By-Laws –Proposed Amendment Quorum of the Board of Trustees:

Ms. Williams called for a motion to approve the Proposed Amendment Quorum of the Board of Trustees in Article VIII, Section 2 to read as such: “Half or more of the members designated in Article II Section 1 shall constitute a quorum for the transaction of business, subject to the following: In the event, a position is vacated, the member(s)’ position will not be counted for purposes of establishing a quorum, as long as at least 13 members are remaining.”

Motion to approve by Mr. Tompkins, seconded by Mr. Brown and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 14: Adjournment:

There being no further business, Ms. Williams declared the meeting officially adjourned at 2:35 p.m.

Ms. Carolyne Williams, Chairperson
Board of Trustees
S.C. Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

11/19/2020

Mr. Robert Brown, Chairperson
Board of Trustees
S.C. Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics

Date Approved