

South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics

Board of Trustees Meeting

November 15, 2018

Noon

Governing Board Members Present

Mr. Hal Campbell, Chair, Presiding

Dr. Perry Halushka, Vice-Chair

Dr. Sandra Kelly

Mr. Lee Stogner

Mr. Art Tompkins

Governing Board Members Present via Conference Call:

Dr. Argentini Anderson

Mr. John Barnes

Dr. Ty Coleman – left at 2:08 p.m.

Dr. Randy Collins

Dr. Anne Pressley - joined at 1:52 p.m.

Dr. Christian Prziembel

Dr. Judith Salley

Ms. Carolyne Williams

Staff Members Present:

Dr. Hector Flores

Mrs. Anne Brumley

Mrs. Beth Dinndorf

Mr. Danny Dorsel

Mr. Brock Heron

Mrs. Bridget Lloyd

Dr. Letita Mason

Mr. Jon Shannon

Dr. Ershela Sims

Guests Present via Conference Call:

Mr. Niles Brinton, GSSM Alumni Board, President

Item 1: Call to Order and Roll Call

Mr. Hal Campbell, Chair called the meeting to order at 12:08. The roll was taken with a quorum present.

Item 2: Reminder of Future Board Meetings

Mr. Hall Campbell reminded everyone to make a note of the future Board meetings for 2018.

January 31, 2019	Columbia	Noon
April 18, 2019	Hartsville	Noon
June 13, 2019	Conference Call	Noon

Item 3: Approval of the Minutes of the June 14, 2018, GSSM Board of Trustees Meeting

Mr. Hal Campbell asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the June 14, 2018 meeting of the GSSM Board of Trustees. Motion to approve by Dr. Halushka, seconded by Dr. Kelly, and unanimously approved by the Board.

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Acknowledgment of Guests:

Dr. Flores welcomed the faculty, staff, and students who joined the meeting and asked them to introduce themselves to the Board of Trustees. A special presentation was given by coach Hugh O'Connor and a few students from the GSSM's volleyball team on the importance of both academics and athletics at GSSM.

Item 4: Introduction of Mrs. Elizabeth Dinndorf

Dr. Flores welcomed Mrs. Dinndorf, new GSSM Foundation Executive Director, since September 2018 and asked that she introduce herself to the Board of Trustees. Mrs. Dinndorf gave an update on various campaigns launched to raise funds as well as corporate donations received by the Foundation. GSSM launched its first "Employee Campaign." The GSSM Foundation plans to meet continuously with donors. Student meal plans, summer camps, and the summer research programs are significant projects for which funds are raised.

Item 5: President's Report – Dr. Hector Flores

Dr. Flores began his report by introducing and welcoming Mrs. Bridget Lloyd, new GSSM Executive Assistant to the office of the President, effective September 2018. He also thanked Ms. Susan Coker for her many years of service as Executive Assistant to the office of the President.

He continued by stating GSSM is in its 30th Anniversary year and is off to a good start for the 2018-2019 academic year. His report included the following highlights and developments during the academic year.

1) Highlights of the 2018-2019 academic year.

- October 10, 2018 – Emeriti appointments awarded to Dr. Leland Cox and Dr. Leroy Davis during Convocation. Dr. Leland Cox delivered the Convocation address.
- November 7-10, 2018 – Professional Development - Dr. Flores attended the NCSST (National Consortium of Secondary STEM Schools) Conference in Houston, TX along with twenty faculty members. The Consortium includes schools that share the goals of transforming mathematics, science, and technology education. GSSM faculty had an opportunity to network with faculty from other schools to obtain new ideas to bring into GSSM.
- March 30, 2019 – GSSM All Class Alumni Reunion
- May 4, 2019 – Photograph 51 - an award-winning play by Anna Ziegler based on the contribution of Rosalind Franklin in the discovery of the double helix DNA structure, will be performed by GSSM students. Ms. Ziegler will join the students, faculty, and staff virtually to talk about the play before its staging.
- June 1, 2019 – Graduation – The commencement speaker will be Dr. Arthur Lupia. Dr. Lupia is a renowned Professor of Political and Economic Sciences at the University of Michigan, and Assistant Director of the National Science Foundation.

2) Developing Global Leaders

Dr. Flores provided an overview of the teaching projects for which he is involved. He is working with a student doing an independent study, and advisor for two seniors engaged in research projects. On January 10th – January 20th, he will co-chaperone with two other staff, taking twenty students on an interim trip to Lima, Peru.

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3) GSSM is Broadening Accessibility and Diversity

- Seeking the best students across the state and meeting them where they are academically, geographically and developmentally.
- We are expanding Outreach - to improve the regional distribution of the student body demographics.
- Re-image Opportunity and Inclusion – Re-engaging and partnering with other schools.
- Offer new virtual opportunities.
- Redefine Govie – Every student taking any GSSM experience will be classified as a "Govie."

4) Reorganized Administrative Structure (Summer 2018)

- Four bridge positions were created: Curriculum/Assessment, Professional Development, Academic Programs, and Research.
- GSSM is investing in the Professional Development of faculty and staff.
 - USC - Darla Moore School of Business Leadership Certificate Program – 20 faculty members will participate in this six-week program beginning November 19th.
 - Professional development opportunities will be required of all faculty and staff to support the changes adopted by GSSM. Several professional development sessions have taken place, and others are planned in the Spring.

5) GSSM Curriculum Changes

Dr. Flores provided an overview of the proposed curriculum changes. Its goal is to prepare students for success through advanced coursework, flexibility, and exploration of their passions and interests. The following changes will be implemented.

- The course load will move from 6-6-6-6 to 5-5-5-5.
- Graduation requirements will be revised.

6) Strengthening Student Engagement

Student engagement in academic matters has increased during the 2018-2019 academic year. Student council members are represented with voting rights on each strategic plan implementation committee. The Student Council elected its President for the first time. Students are also engaged in the community through the Girl-to-Girl and Boy-to-Boy mentoring programs.

1. Education Sub-Committee Meeting Update:

Dr. Perry Halushka gave an update on the meeting held today to discuss the changes in curriculum. He stated the committee has made significant progress and is moving forward in the right direction. Additional meetings will be held to ensure clarification on the proposed changes. The sub-committee would like to see simulations of different curricula to see how it will look for students with different interests.

2. Student Council

Ms. Abbi Fralick, President of the Student Council, reported on the student body members view on the curriculum changes. The student body feels that the rigorous course loads for 11th and 12th-grade students may be too stressful for 10th-grade students. If changes are implemented, the student body may be more supportive of 10th-grade admissions.

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Dr. Letita Mason, Director of Admissions also provided a brief overview of 10th-grade admissions. GSSM is looking at what their options are if the students were to go residential or virtual. Some mandates must be reviewed to determine what is needed to move forward with the 10th-grade admissions process.

7) Re-envisioning Leaders for the New Global Landscape

Dr. Flores stated an essential benefit GSSM could leave students is to foster the love of knowledge and joy of learning in their GSSM experience, to develop life-long learners and future leaders.

8) Initiatives at GSSM

- Inside GSSM – is an interactive open house event started three years ago targeted towards mentoring students, and a day for families to discover the GSSM Journey. GSSM’s next open-house event will be held on March 1, 2019.
- GSSM Elementary - GSSM Outreach and Virtual programs will start a pilot program in the Fall with the GSSM STEAM Mobile Bus. There will be six STEAM mini sessions over six weeks beginning with schools in Hartsville. The teachers will work in conjunction with junior engineers. The goal is to have STEAM field trips to schools to give students throughout the state an opportunity to see themselves benefitting from a GSSM experience. The bus will be equipped with a robot, a 3-D printer and will begin travel throughout Darlington and Florence counties and later to other counties in the state.
- Renewing Partnership and Engagement with Local High Schools – GSSM has met with the principals at Mayo High School, Hartsville High School and invited the new Superintendent of Darlington county to campus.
- Renewing Partnership with the Foundation – The Foundation, under the leadership of Mrs. Elizabeth Dinndorf, Executive Director is committed to financial transparency and fostering an understanding of the operating expenses and endowment fund.

Item 6: Proposed Changes to Sub-Committee Structure – Dr. Hector Flores provided a summary of the sub-committee name changes requested for approval. The proposed changes will require amendments to the By-Laws. The Committee on Academic Affairs and Outreach is replaced by the Committee on Educational Policies and Practices. The Committee on Educational Policies and Practices will hear all matters pertaining to school academics, curricula, graduation standards, residential life, discipline, college admissions, and significant program changes in residential, virtual and outreach programs. The Committee on Enrollment replaces the Committee on Student Development. The Committee on Enrollment will hear all matters pertaining to recruiting and admissions across all school programs, including diversity, retention, geographic representation, and significant program changes.

Action Item:

GSSM requests the Board to authorize dissolving the current standing Board of Trustees Committees on Academic Affairs and Outreach and Student Development to be replaced by a new committee entitled Committee on Educational Policies and Practices with the same responsibilities as the former

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committees, and create a new standing committee entitled Committee on Enrollment to oversee all issues pertaining to recruitment, selection, and success outcomes for participants in all GSSM programs, and make appropriate changes in the GSSM Board of Trustees By-laws Article V, programs, and make necessary changes in the GSSM Board of Trustees By-laws Article V, Section 1, subsection (b) to enable the same.

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the proposed sub-committee name changes and create a new standing sub-committee entitled Committee on Enrollment. Motion to approve by Mr. Tompkins, seconded by Dr. Kelly.

Mr. Campbell called for the vote which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 7: Legislative Changes – Dr. Hector Flores and Mr. Jon Shannon

Mr. Shannon provided a summary of the following proposed changes through the SC General Assembly due to programs at GSSM exceeding legislative mandate.

1. Section 59-48-10. Establishment of School – The current text indicates the school will foster educational development of high school juniors and seniors. The school shall provide accelerated instruction in mathematics and science in a residential educational setting.

The proposed text will replace high school juniors and seniors with “students” and residential educational setting with “residential, outreach, and virtual educational settings.”

2. Section 59-48-30. Course of Study – The current text indicates a course of study in science and mathematics and provides in-depth instruction in science and mathematics

The proposed text will change course to “courses” and add “engineering, and related fields” to the in-depth instruction provided. Include the statement “the board shall determine the appropriate qualifications required for its teachers.”

The board stated they should not determine the qualification for GSSM teachers.

3. Section 59-48-20. Board of Trustees; appointment; term of office; compensation – The current text does not allow for the Foundation President to appoint a designee.

The proposed text will allow the Foundation President, to appoint a designee.

4. Section 59-48-50. Administrative Officer for the School. The current text name the chief administrative officer of the school as the Director.

The proposed text will change the Administrative Officer from Director to President.

Action Item: No action is taken.

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Item 8: Finance, Facilities, and Operations – Mr. Art Tompkins and Mr. Brock Heron

Mr. Tompkins, Chair of the Finance Committee, called upon Mr. Brock Heron, CFO and VP for Operations for the report. Mr. Heron provided a summary of the 2018-19 Fiscal Year – Issues and Impacts.

Mr. Heron began by stating that the budget for the 2018-19 year was not approved in June because the State Legislature had not set it at the time.

Presentations and discussion pertained to the following categories:

- A. GSSM Budget Plan A SOY 2018-19 – Attachment A
Mr. Heron presented an overview of the 2018-19 budgeted items.

Action Item A: Review and Approve the 2018-19 Budget.

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the 2018-19 budget. Motion to approve by the Finance Committee, a second is not needed. The Finance Committee unanimously approved the motion.

- B. GSSM State Budget Request Priorities for 2019-20 School Year – Attachment B
Mr. Heron presented an overview of the State budget request.

Action Item B: Approve Budget Request Priorities for 2019-20 School Year.

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the 2019-20 operating budget with an increase of \$379,000 for three FTEs. Approve \$16,000,000 for the capital fund projects. Motion to approve by the Finance Committee, a second is not needed. The Finance Committee unanimously approved the motion.

Item 9: Strategic Plan Implementation Metrics – Mr. Jon Shannon

Mr. Shannon began by presenting the metrics and the progress made in the strategic plan implementation. The plan-level metrics presents nine goals GSSM will report to the Board regularly.

The Board of Trustees recommended including a “*Base*” column between “*Metric*” and “*Target*” in the plan-level metrics that shows the schools progress.

Action Item: Adoption of Metrics

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to adopt the metrics as presented by the administration with the frequency of reporting at each Board meeting. Motion to approve by Mr. Tompkins, seconded by Dr. Kelly.

Mr. Campbell called for the vote which was unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 10: Alumni Update: – Mr. Niles Brinton '08

Mr. Brinton began by stating his involvement with the alumni board for the past two years and as President for the past five months. He presented two initiatives from the Alumni Board.

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- Need better on-line alumni networking portal to allow alumni to remain connected.
- Regularly scheduled “All Class” reunions.

Item 11: New Business:

- Standing Committee Assignments

Item 12: Approval of the Consent Agenda:

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion to approve by Dr. Halushka, seconded by Mr. Stogner, and unanimously approved by the Board.

Item 13: Executive Session: Not requested

Item 14: Adjourn

Mr. Campbell asked for a motion to adjourn. Motion by Dr. Halushka and seconded by Mr. Tompkins. Meeting adjourned at 2:27 p.m.

Mr. Hal Campbell, Chairman
Board of Trustees
SC Governor’s School for Science and Mathematics