

BOARD OF DIRECTORS REGULAR MEETING

Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting – June 11, 2025

Submitted by Christina Vandiver

The South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Board of Directors meeting was held Wednesday, June 11, 2025, at 10:00 a.m. in the Callie Stringer Rainey Boardroom of the SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities.

Board Members in Attendance

Chad Prosser, Chairman; Irv Welling, Vice Chairman; Kimberly Lee; Fain McDaniel, Board Chair of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation; Carly Phinizy; Andrew W. Saleeby; Della Watkins; and Gerald Witt

Employees in Attendance

Dr. Cedric Adderley, President; Betsy Beam, VP of Finance and Administration; Dr. Matthew Burns, VP for Student Development; LaTomya Doctor, Director of Human Resources; Amanda Herlihy, Executive Director of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation; Richard Jones, Director of IT; Zach Inks, Chair of Faculty Council; Liz Robinson, Vice Chair of Staff Council; and Christina Vandiver, Director of Communications

Welcome

Chairman Prosser called the meeting to order at 10:00 a.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance.

Notice of Meeting

Chairman Prosser stated notice of this meeting had been provided to all persons, organizations, and news media that have requested notification, as required by Section 30-4-80(e) of the SC Code of Laws. Page 1

Approval of the Minutes (Exhibit 1)

Chairman Prosser called for a motion to approve the minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, March 5, 2025. A motion to approve the minutes was brought forward by Kimberly Lee, seconded by Gerald Witt, and was approved by a unanimous vote.

President's Report (Exhibit 2)

Dr. Adderley reviewed the President's Report, which was distributed by email prior to the meeting. He reflected on the 25th anniversary year and the school's graduating class. Dr. Adderley also reported on the school's increased presence and exposure at Artisphere, Outreach achievements, and legislative activity.

Chairman Prosser commented on the success of the gala event and opened the floor for questions. Ms. Lee expressed how extraordinary the commencement ceremony was and

shared her experience talking to families and Govies. She also commented that the gala was extraordinary and beautifully planned.

Without further questions, the President's Report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Finance and Administration Report (Exhibit 3)

Betsy Beam, VP of Finance and Administration, reviewed the Finance Report, which was distributed by email prior to the meeting. She reported on the following: boiler installation, Facilities' new preventative maintenance plan, bringing goats to campus for weed removal behind the residential halls, IT's preparation for a full access system upgrade for the school next year, the installation of the Sakas Theatre floor, and Tammy Hubert's retirement. Ms. Beam also gave a capital projects update on the gym, dining hall, and residence hall, which they hope to have a feasibility study for by the end of next week. She gave a budget summary and said the annual audit is scheduled for Monday. Ms. Beam also invited the board to reach out to auditors directly if they feel the need to do so.

Without further questions, the Finance Report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Student Development Report (Exhibit 4)

Dr. Matthew Burns reviewed the Student Development Report submitted by email prior to the meeting. He reported on recent graduate information, Alumni Day, Senior Send-Off, summer parent receptions, mid-summer all-family phone calls, hiring another mental health counselor, and summer programs. Dr. Burns also gave an Office of Admissions update which covered existing open spots for the residential high school, the office's collaboration with art areas for next cycle planning, the promotion of Mary Evington to the assistant director of admissions position, and hiring for the new director of admissions.

Without further questions, the Student Development Report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Dean's Report (Exhibit 5)

In Dean Thomas' absence, Dr. Adderley reported on the following highlights from the Dean's Report: the success of the end-of-year events, including Senior Decision Day, Commencement and Celebration of Achievement; the completion of the first year of the school's Film program; the hiring of a new science teacher, and the upcoming campus arts collaboration of the *Hadestown* musical for next spring. Chairman Prosser commented on the positive growth of collaborative initiatives across the arts, which was a part of the school's strategic plan. He asked how many juniors were coming into the incoming film class. Dr. Adderley confirmed that it was 12.

Without further questions, the Dean's Report was received as information and will be accepted as a permanent component of these minutes.

Foundation Report (Exhibit 6)

After Fain McDaniel commented on the success of the gala, Amanda Herlihy, Executive Director of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation, reviewed the Foundation Report, which was submitted by email prior to the meeting. She reported on

raising a funding match, raising \$250,000 on the gala, and raising over \$500,000 during the 25th anniversary year. Ms. Herlihy also shared new initiatives from the quarter, including Govie Give Day and \$5 Friday. The Foundation also gained a large number of new or renewed donors. They plan to be more proactive with campaigns this coming year, with planning for the spring campaign already underway. Ms. Herlihy announced that Songwriters in the Round is coming back to Greenville due to the Beaufort County Advisory Committee's plans to step back from this event after 2025. The Foundation is in talks with the Greenville Drive to host the event. The upcoming Songwriters will be held on October 23 at a new location in Hilton Head called Honey Horn. This year, the Foundation was focused on statewide awareness and collaboration with the school.

Ms. Lee shared her appreciation of the emails and personal notes that she's received from the Foundation, stating that they go a long way in developing relationships and do not go unnoticed.

Without further questions, the Governor's School for the Arts & Humanities Foundation Report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Faculty Council Report (Exhibit 7)

Zach Inks, Chair of the Faculty Council, reviewed the Faculty Council report submitted by email prior to the meeting. He reported on collaborative meetings with Admissions, the Weathers Group, an AI workshop, collaboration with Staff Council on event planning, and participation in Facilities Management Day.

Chairman Prosser asked if there was anything the Board could do for the faculty, and Mr. Inks replied that the faculty feel like the board and the school are very supportive of their work.

Without further questions, the Faculty Council Report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Staff Council Report (Exhibit 8)

Liz Robinson, Vice Chair of the Staff Council, reviewed the Staff Council report submitted by email prior to the meeting. She reported that staff feel very supported by the campus community and that the current council leadership will remain in place for the coming school year.

Chairman Prosser asked what the board can do to help support the Staff Council, and Ms. Robinson jokingly responded to provide snacks.

Without further questions, the Staff Council report was received as information and will be established as a permanent component of these minutes.

Old Business

Chairman Prosser stated that it was time to begin the process of updating the strategic plan. Dr. Adderley made a request to solicit proposals for strategic plan consultants to guide the school through the next planning process and hopes to finalize a plan by the end of the calendar year. He mentioned the Weathers Group and their current presence in the campus community, as well as the USC Beaufort Center for Strategic Planning, which is a state agency. Dr. Adderley also mentioned that Eleanor Dunlap is a local consultant who could work well, and Terri Brinkman developed a strategic plan for Greenville County Schools. He is seeking other consultants with this specialty to help develop goals for the plan. There are capital projects that need to be launched and

designed for longevity. Collaborative instruction and projects will be included in the strategic plan, along with professional development initiatives. Any curricular direction for the next 10 to 25 years will be included as well. Dr. Adderley asked the board for additional individuals or groups to solicit proposals from and if they have any big ideas to include in the plan.

Chairman Prosser stated that the most important element is full participation from the board and campus community. He said it would be helpful to have a moderator and facilitator to assist and to draft the plan. Chairman Prosser asked about the proposed timeline and how the selection would be made.

Dr. Adderley said that the board would make the selection and that the campus community would provide input. He would like to have 8-10 proposals for review.

Chairman Prosser opened the floor for suggestions and offered to send names to Dr. Adderley after the meeting.

Ms. Watkins highly recommended Meghan Hickman with Columbia-based firm EOS Worldwide. Megan was her choice because her strategic planning background and operating system allows for agility in writing and measuring future progress. The system they developed has led them to achieving great things that are measurable. Mr. Welling requested that Ms. Watkins share her strategic plan with the board.

Ms. Herlihy worked with Holly Hayes from ISI consulting (Midlands) on meeting facilitation. Ms. Hayes also works with strategic planning.

Chairman Prosser recommended that the school form a committee to review and narrow down the potential candidates, and then present the top two candidates to the board. He also invited a few board members to be a part of this selection committee. Chairman Prosser, Mr. Welling and Ms. Watkins volunteer.

Mr. Saleeby suggested Dennis Lambries, who is an associate professor at Newberry College and spent his career in academia. Mr. Saleeby stated that Mr. Lambries is a great facilitator for strategic planning discussions.

Ms. Watkins asked when this selection process would take place. Dr. Adderley responded that it should begin this summer, and he would like to have letters out within the month, to begin the process prior to school starting in August.

Chairman Prosser stated Dr. Adderley should proceed with the bidding process, and that much of this work can be done virtually. He also commented that the school is required to submit a strategic plan for certain state requirements, and asked if there are any hard deadlines for the completion of the plan. Dr. Adderley replied that we are not in danger of not being in compliance with anything right now.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Irv Welling, seconded by Della Watkins, and approved by unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:31 a.m.