

**Minutes of the Board of Directors Meeting
Wednesday, March 13, 2024**

The South Carolina Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Board of Directors meeting was held Wednesday, March 13, 2024, at 10:00 a.m. in the Callie Stringer Rainey Boardroom of the SC Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities campus and Microsoft Teams meeting software.

Board Members in Attendance

Chad Prosser, Chairman; Dr. Jo Anne Anderson, South Carolina Education Oversight Committee designee; Rev. LeShown Goodwin; Bob Horger; Dr. Harriet Jaworowski; Fain McDaniel, Board Chair of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation; and Sarah Ropp Cathcart as delegate for Ellen Weaver, SC Superintendent of Education.

Board Members in Attendance (via Microsoft Teams)

Maria Fabrizio

Faculty and Staff in Attendance

Dr. Cedric Adderley, President; Carol Baker, Director of Outreach and Community Engagement; Betsy Beam, VP of Finance and Administration; Dr. Matthew Burns, VP for Student Development; LaTomya Doctor, Director of Human Resources; Jason Englisbe, Director of Residential Life; Tim Getchell, Director of Facilities; Amanda Herlihy, Executive Director of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation; Megan Hueble, Staff Council Chair; Kevin Human, Film Department Chair; Richard Jones, Director of IT; Charnise Mangle, Faculty Council Chair; Jared Martin, Director of Development of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation; and Jamie Sherrill, Executive Assistant to the President and Board Secretary; Dr. Jennifer Thomas, Dean, and VP of Arts and Academics; Christina Vandiver, Director of Communications.

Welcome

Chairman Prosser called the meeting to order at 10:02 a.m. and welcomed all guests in attendance. He also welcomed new board of directors members Sarah Ropp Cathcart, South Carolina Superintendent of Education Ellen Weaver's delegate, and Fain McDaniel, Board Chair of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation.

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.

Approval of Minutes (Exhibit 1)

Chairman Prosser called for a motion to approve the Minutes of the Board of Directors meeting held on Wednesday, December 13, 2023. A motion to approve the minutes was brought forward by Rev. Goodwin, seconded by Dr. Jaworowski, and approved by unanimous vote.

President's Report (Exhibit 2)

President Dr. Cedric Adderley reviewed the President's Report, which was distributed by email prior to the meeting. He reported on the success of the Midwinter Shakespeare production of "Romeo and Juliet" (Drama Dept) and numerous guest artists during the reporting period including: Janet Anthony of BLUME Haiti, a non-profit organization with a mission to develop leadership through music education; Jay Will, ('16 Drama) currently cast in Tulsa King; and Tyreese Byrd ('16 Music) currently with the Madison, WI and Toledo, OH opera companies. Campus celebrations during the month of February included the student-led Martin Luther King, Jr. Day production in which Govie parent, Rev. Marcus Norfleet, was the guest speaker and National School Counseling Week. He noted that three student ambassadors traveled to Columbia to participate in Arts Advocacy Day and engaged with members of the General Assembly and legislative staff. Additional campus guests included: Greenville Mayor Knox White; Mandy Roberts, Division Liaison of the SC Dept of Education Division of Strategic Engagement; James Rawl, Director of Safe Schools, and Rodney Neely, also with the Department of Safe Schools. Mr. Neely returned to the Governor's School to perform a comprehensive safety audit to assist our Department of Public Safety in determining additional safety and security measures for the campus.

The cycle of budget hearings is now complete with the Education Subcommittee of the House Ways and Means Committee and Senate K-12 Education Subcommittee with the budget process expected to be completed in June. Although the Senate has not completed its final review, it was reported that the House of Representatives supported three of our seven priorities. As the budget moves into the conference committee, Dr. Adderley will continue with individual conferences to ensure the budget is supported.

The school's accreditation process with the Accrediting Commission for Community and Pre-Collegiate Art Schools (ACCPAS) has concluded. Due to postponement of the Commission's review meeting, the Commission Action Report has been delayed. Final communication on the school's status will be delivered directly to the Board upon receipt. Considering the fact that there were no issues of noncompliance cited in the Visitor's Report, Dr. Adderley expects the school to receive a reaffirmation of accreditation with a request for a progress report on the status of our new Film program.

The 25th anniversary planning committee has met regularly since the beginning of the semester. Dr. Adderley thanked Terry Grayson-Caprio and Irv Welling for volunteering as board representatives on the committee. This Committee is developing a performance and events calendar for the 25th anniversary celebration, which will be finalized within the next couple of weeks. Plans include a statewide celebration with many partners from across the state including Furman University, the South Carolina Artisans Center, and SCETV. Dr. Adderley thanked Christina Vandiver, Director of Communications, for brokering the partnership with SCETV which will be critical in developing a film component for our

celebratory events. Terry Grayson-Caprio is taking the lead on a fundraising gala for April 2025. Additional details are forthcoming. In addition to the event planning for the year, the Office of Communications has created a 25th anniversary logo that will be used throughout the year to celebrate all activities.

Lastly, Dr. Adderley welcomed Tim Getchell, the new Director of Facilities. Mr. Getchell has a strong and accomplished employment history in facilities and operations. Having only recently joined the Governor's School community, he has already made a significant impact on the campus.

With no 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. Ms. Beam reported on the work of the IT department over the holiday weekend to ensure the wireless access points were installed and working. The campus should enjoy faster internet speeds by this summer. The Public Safety team assisted in a campus-wide safety survey conducted by Mr. Rodney Neeley, a former law enforcement officer and member of the SC Department of Education's Division of Strategic Engagement. Ms. Beam will make the results of the survey available to the Board if received prior to the June meeting.

Ms. Beam reported that 90% of the budget has been spent within the past seven months. She is working closely with the South Carolina Department of Administration's Shared Services Division to stay on budget; however, they only budget with legislative money and do not calculate carryover money. Therefore some of the income, for example, Aramark meal plan payments, are not shown in the budget. Shared Services has agreed to readjust the budget to include this income. She will need to move some line items around, but does not expect any additional large expenses. Ms. Beam notified the board that some of the capital projects are set to begin soon. The gymnasium renovation project will begin in the next few weeks; however, the dining hall renovation project cannot begin until it is approved by the State. Ms. Beam expects to start the bid process for the project by the end of the month. The school has received a total of \$460,000 in Aramark donations, with \$100,000 allocated to kitchen equipment.

Mr. Prosser asked whether the 77% YTD operational expenses are considered to be an exact comparison with how we previously managed budgeting and tracking with the Department of Education. Ms. Beam explained that the new process is very different. Before using Shared Services, the budget looked like one pot of money, however, now there is a better way to track and understand the budget. This year budgeting will be done per department, but are challenging departments next year to determine their own budgets. Each department will have a better say in the budgeting process. She is hoping to have an even more detailed budget next year due to this change. Chairman Prosser asked whether we are still expected to come out on budget. Ms. Beam responded that Shared Services is predicted to be even, however, she expects to go a little over budget and go into rollover funds from the revenue fund.

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, VP for Student Development, reviewed the Student Development Report, which was submitted by email prior to the meeting. Dr. Burns reported students are doing well and had a great start to the second semester. The Student Life team is continuing to work with students through wraparound services and is engaged with The Medical University of South Carolina (MUSC) in a new virtual partnership to help with the overflow of mental health services. We continue to foster strong partnerships around the Greenville community. As students graduate and leave campus, we continue to communicate through the Alumni Newsletter.

Dr. Burns reported on the modified year-round calendar with an early start date, as well as modification of the order of the summer programs. In previous years, programs for rising 10th graders were offered in July. Those programs, along with all music programs, are now scheduled earlier in the summer to eliminate conflicts with school music events throughout the state. We are currently in the middle of the admissions cycle and Dr. Burns advised of an uptick in applications. The priority deadline has passed and we have moved into the rolling admissions phase. Auditions have been held at Columbia College, Francis Marion University, and on our campus. Applications for Film in both summer and the high school programs are steady and we expect a full cohort in both.

Dr. Anderson asked about the percentage of students who express interest compared to the number of students who apply and are accepted. Dr. Burns stated that student information is entered into the admissions database immediately upon an initial inquiry; however, only about one-third of those students proceed with the application process. An even smaller percentage of students actually complete the application process. There is a larger gap in summer students who express interest versus those who apply and are accepted, as most students are exploring their options both at the Governor's School and elsewhere for summer experiences. Our goal for the high school is 120 new students. So far, over 350 students have expressed interest. Dr. Jaworowski added the importance of rolling admissions and meeting students where they are. She appreciates that there is no hard deadline for admissions and can be flexible. Dr. Burns commended Megan Heuble for her work with the admissions process and for spreading the word about the rolling admissions. She is still communicating with schools and stakeholders about continuing to accept applications.

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)

Dr. Jennifer Thomas, Dean and VP of Arts and Academics, reviewed the Dean's Report, which was submitted by email prior to the meeting. Dean Thomas reported that December 16 was an art exploratory day on campus where students were required to choose three art

experiences outside of their art area to explore. This was an experiment and a logistical challenge, but the faculty and staff pitched in on this and developed new content for this learning experience. It was a great success and she commended all employees on campus who assisted with this day.

Dean Thomas reported on a robust number of students on the Honor Rolls in the fall 2023 semester, Ninety-one students made the President's List by earning all A's and eighty-four students made the Dean's List by earning all A's and B's. We have just completed the third quarter and are moving towards evaluating where students are and who will be returning next year or graduating this year. We are working with parents on charting their plans for next year. She also welcomed the new Film Department Chair, Kevin Human, who started in February. He has worked collaboratively with other departments and brings expertise and leadership to his role.

Dr. Thomas also highlighted the school's participation in the South Carolina Arts Advocacy Week. Several student ambassadors attended and were accompanied by Charnise Mangle, Social Studies faculty and Faculty Council Chair. Our students also took charge of all social media for the SC Arts Alliance posting stories about arts education in South Carolina and why it matters.

Dean Thomas advised the Board of music faculty member, Robert O'Brien's sudden passing. He was an adjunct cello instructor and partner of faculty member Katie Dey. Students and employees are feeling his loss and are working with Tiffany Prasertkul, Director of Behavioral Health and Intervention Counseling, to provide ongoing support.

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)

Amanda Herlihy, Executive Director of the Governor's School for the Arts and Humanities Foundation (the Foundation), reviewed the Foundation Report, which was submitted by email prior to the meeting. Fain McDaniel has been named the new Chairperson of the Foundation Board. Ms. McDaniel announced that Ms. Herlihy will be accepting an award for one of Business Report's 2024 Upstate's Women of Influence later in the day. This award is reserved for women who are reaching inspiring heights and providing inspiration to others in the Upstate. This is an opportunity for recognition in the community and to further build the reputation of the Foundation leadership. The board congratulated Ms. Herlihy on this esteemed award.

Ms. Herlihy reported that the operating revenue is on track, however, corporate donations are trending downward. She is working with Jared Martin, Director of Development, to increase those donations and she solicited assistance from Board Members to help with connections to increase corporate sponsorship.

The School and Foundation hosted another successful President's Briefing in February with a second one scheduled for May. Several new Foundation Board members made their first

contact with the Governor's School, so this is an effective way to cultivate new stakeholders for the school. With this in mind, Ms. Herlihy asked that board members continue to send her recommendations for the next round of attendees at the President's briefings.

Ms. Herlihy reported that the Foundation is fortunate to have twenty-four endowed funds supporting student scholarships and meal plan assistance. She hopes to send impact reports to those donors soon so that they are able to see how their dollars are spent. She noted the Lipscomb Family Foundation as having recently contributed to the endowed fund as well as with the family of Grayson Keck who initiated an endowed fund for health and wellness to solicit additional funding in memory of their late son's twenty-first birthday.

Ms. Herlihy reported that the Foundation has received the Platinum Seal of Transparency with Candid for the fourth year in a row. This award honors organizations with transparent holding standards for nonprofit organizations. The award also confirms that the Foundation is being good stewards of donor money and is a successful agency. Mr. Prosser asked about the average commitment for the 2024 endowed funds. Ms. Herlihy explained that there is a donation amount of \$20,000 to start, but this number has varied in the past.

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

Faculty Council Report (Exhibit 7)

Charnise Mangle, Faculty Council Chair, reviewed the Faculty Council Report, which was submitted by email prior to the meeting. Ms. Mangle reported on faculty professional developments, conferences attended, and all that the faculty have been doing professionally in their field. She noted the achievements of faculty members reflect their professional expertise as well as their commitment to the school and the development of the students.

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)

Megan Hueble, Staff Council Chair, reviewed the Staff Council Report, which was submitted by email prior to this meeting. Ms. Hueble reported that the staff are busy working collaboratively across campus. Their focus is promoting communication and professional development for all non-instructional staff. The Staff Council is preparing for Staff Council elections soon and is committed to improving the working climate.

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 confirmed that there was no old business to discuss at this meeting.

New Business

Chairman Prosser expressed gratitude for Kevin Human coming on board and welcomed him to

present to the board. Highlights of his presentation include: Mr. Kevin grew up in Pelzer, South Carolina, and earned a Master of Fine Arts in Screenwriting and VFX from UCLA and Clemson University, respectively. He would have preferred to stay closer to home, but the lack of film programs on the East Coast caused him to venture out west. He hopes to give South Carolina students the opportunities he did not have when seeking film programs. His latest works include co-producing a spy thriller film *Chief of Station* coming out in May and the Netflix limited series *Untamed*. He has begun collaborating with campus faculty and the local film community so that students can receive local support, as there is now a robust film community in Greenville. He has spoken with other partners in the area and they are excited to work with the school. Students working with local filmmakers will be a large part of the curriculum and he envisions students having mentorship and access to these professionals so that those connections can take them far in their careers even beyond Greenville. He has spoken with several people who have expressed interest in being guest artists. Film students will participate in regional film festivals. Mr. Human will be a judge for the local Reedy Reels Film Festival this year. The 321 Student Film Festival was held on the school's campus last year in conjunction with the Reedy Reels Film Festival, and we will continue to host that event. Film students will study classic and contemporary style films, with a humanities portion to the curriculum. He believes that film students will be competitive at top film schools if they choose that route. His biggest need is a dedicated film space with a sound stage because the school cannot be competitive without it. Also needed are equipment and faculty.

Dr. Anderson asked what characteristics a student leaving school would possess to be prepared to enter a film program. Mr. Human explained that having a sense of visual storytelling is what will set our students apart. They should have a voice, a point of view, and creativity. The ability to tell a story visually is something that needs to be crafted. He has spoken to other filmmakers about what they would have wanted to learn in high school and will take their feedback under consideration. Mr. Horger asked how many students are expected to be in the film program for the residential high school initially. The first class of film students will be juniors and the class will consist of about 10 to 12 students. An additional 10 to 12 students will enroll in the fall semester of 2025 bringing the total department to twenty-four students in the second year. Rev. Goodwin inquired about the collaboration aspect across disciplines. Dean Thomas advised of one of the changes being the Screenwriting course, currently in the Creative Writing department, being moved to the Film department. In addition to the Creative Writing department, Mr. Human also expects to work closely with the Drama department on upcoming projects. He spoke of the fortunate timing to be on campus for the fourth quarter so that he can see what each department is working on and brainstorm collaboration ideas. He will attend classes and determine how best to serve the film program. He also looks forward to working with the Production team. Rev. LeShawn Goodwin commended Mr. Human on his passion and is looking forward to seeing what he does. The Board congratulated Mr. Human on the Netflix special as a huge accomplishment. Dr. Jaworowski asked how the program will be funded moving forward. Dr. Adderley stated that the program will be supported through the school budget and the Foundation. The current budget includes a request for film department funding. Propositions for full-time employees, part-time employees, and temporary adjunct faculty are budgeted on campus with some flexibility. Mr. Prosser added that there are additional opportunities for private support, as the General Assembly supports the film industry and has historically been forthcoming when asked for funding for film. He stressed the need to meet the

demands of the students and inquired about other facilities in Greenville that can be utilized. Mr. Human advised of an upcoming studio tour at Pronk Studios, which houses a large film LED volume wall. This is a new avenue in film called “virtual production” that would be a showpiece and a functional thing for students to create a fascinating piece of art. Two other studios in the area also have a sound stage. Dr. Thomas is hoping to find a space off campus in the short term to leave the equipment set up so that Mr. Human’s time can be best utilized for teaching. She offered her support for the program so that we can best serve students and the state.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was made by Bob Horger, seconded by Rev. Goodwin, and approved by a unanimous vote. The meeting was adjourned at 11:49 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

Jamie Sherrill
Recording Secretary to the Board of Directors