

May 6, 2016

The Honorable Nikki R. Haley
Office of the Governor
1205 Pendleton
Columbia, SC 29201

Dear Governor Haley,

The South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics would like to share some exciting news with you! Once again, GSSM has been named one of "America's Top-Performing Schools with Elite Students" by *The Washington Post*. GSSM was the only South Carolina school included in the list.

The 25 schools that made the list and were listed in alphabetical order were described as "non-neighborhood schools with SAT or ACT averages above the highest averages for neighborhood schools nationally."

We are committed to building upon our 28 year track record of providing an unmatched opportunity for academically gifted students across the Palmetto state. None of this would be possible without your continued support.

Thank you for all you do for GSSM!

All Best,



Kim Bowman
CEO, GSSM Foundation
EVP Strategic Development, GSSM



SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL
for Science & Mathematics
F O U N D A T I O N

1122 LADY STREET
SUITE 700
COLUMBIA SC 29201

803 252 9152 OFFICE
803 252 0634 FAX
www.scgssm.org

24/7smart
SINCE 1988



SOUTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL for Science & Mathematics

Media Contact: Lauren Shirley

PR & Marketing Coordinator

Email: lauren@scgssm.org

Phone: 803-252-9152 (o) | 513-702-1422 (c)

GSSM Named Top-Performing U.S. School by *The Washington Post*

Columbia, SC - The South Carolina Governor's School for Science & Mathematics (GSSM) has been named one of "America's Top-Performing Schools with Elite Students" by *The Washington Post*. GSSM was the only South Carolina school included in the list.

The 25 schools, listed in alphabetical order, were described as "non-neighborhood schools with SAT or ACT averages above the highest averages for neighborhood schools nationally."

GSSM has the highest statewide scores in both the SAT and ACT. With an average SAT score of 1966 and an average composite ACT score of 30.6, GSSM was well above the statewide averages for both tests, 1442 and 20.4 respectively.

"We are honored to be selected as a top-performing school with elite students by *The Washington Post*," said Dr. Hector Flores, GSSM president. "GSSM's students are some of the best in the state and are selected only after a long and rigorous application process."

GSSM is a two-year public, residential high school for academically talented juniors and seniors. It offers college-level courses and hands-on curriculum with a special focus on science, math, engineering, technology and research, along with concentrations in economics and entrepreneurship. Forty-six percent of GSSM's STEM courses are taught above the AP-level. GSSM is one of only 12 specialized residential programs in the nation. The school has been nationally recognized for its strong mix of intellectual challenges, dedicated teachers, rigorous research opportunities and overall excellence.

Beyond its distinctive curriculum, GSSM offers unique learning opportunities including the nationally recognized Summer Program for Research Interns (SPRI), the Research Experience Scholars Program (RESP) and January Interim. These innovative programs provide students with mentored, graduate-level internships, international travel experiences and options to explore non-traditional courses. The School is also educating the next generation of entrepreneurs and business leaders through the BlueCross BlueShield Economics & Finance Institute and the next generation of creative engineers through the Duke Energy Engineering & Innovation Institute.

Learn more about GSSM by visiting www.scgssm.org.

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About GSSM

The South Carolina Governor's School for Science and Mathematics (GSSM) is a two-year, public, residential high school in Hartsville, SC, specializing in the advanced study of science, technology, engineering and math (STEM), with a unique emphasis on economics and entrepreneurship.

GSSM's residential program can serve as many as 288 high school juniors and seniors annually from across the state. In addition, the school impacts more than 10,000 students and teachers each year through its innovative outreach and virtual programs. Learn more by visiting www.scgssm.org.