



North Carolina
School of Science
and Mathematics

**Board of Trustees Meeting
Alumni Association Board of Directors
Quarterly Report
March 2022**

Greetings from the NCSSM Alumni Association!

Though the end of 2021 and start of 2022 was hindered by Omnicron, the AABOD continues working to connect with Alumni. The annual Alumni Association Holiday Reading in December was once again a favorite tradition and several Holiday Socials (via Zoom) were hosted for alumni classes.

We look forward to our Board Retreat in April, and hope we can all meet in person. One of our goals at the retreat is to develop initiatives for alumni when they ask “How can I get involved”, “What can I do to be more engaged”? This is a common theme from alumni, and we want to provide meaningful answers with planned opportunities as a follow up.

The Alumni Association is hosting a NCSSM Alumni Diversity Webinar Series for 2022. In celebration of Black History Month, we will kick off the series with a panel discussion featuring accomplished Black alumni. This event will be moderated by Jamie Butler-Chidozie, NCSSM Chief Diversity Officer. All current NCSSM students and alumni (and especially young alumni from the classes of 2017-2021) are invited for an informal conversation tracing our panelists’ journeys through NCSSM and beyond into the worlds of medicine, engineering, the armed forces, law, and higher education. Our panelists include:

- **Hope Copeland**, Federal Bureau of Investigations Chemist; *Hometown: Greenville, NC*
- **Kyiandra Somerville**, Retired Army Major; *Hometown: Manson (Warren County), NC*
- **Dr. Steven Freeman-Muhammad**, Pharmacist; *Hometown: High Point, NC*
- **Bryant Griffin**, Visual Effects Supervisor, Film Director, Former Lucasfilm Visual Effects Matte Painting Supervisor; *Hometown: Charlotte, NC*
- **Dr. William Tyson**, Sociology Professor / Author; *Hometown: Tarboro, NC*

We also will use nationally designated months to honor Indigenous, Latinx, Asian American/Pacific Islander, and LGBTQIA+ alumni as part of the series.

Strategic Plan Update:

The AABOD continues to work on our three-part strategic plan.

1) An Amazing Alumni Weekend,

Planning has started for Alumni Weekend in October 2022. In the coming months, we will be reaching out to the reunion classes for Reunion Chairs and will begin developing the schedule. Here’s to hoping it will be an in-person event.

2) Strong Board Governance, and

Recruitment is in process for the 2022-2044 AABOD and will remain open through July.

3) a Broad Reach of the Alumni Association.

The combined Engagement Committee has created a series of alumni events, reaching different affinity groups and alumni interests. Hopefully, at the Board Retreat, we will identify specific alumni opportunities, which the Engagement Committee can successfully execute.

Almabase, the interface for the Alumni Association, with a main goal to provide a platform to connect NCSSM Alumni, has launched. We hope the information shared with NCSSM and each other will create a stronger, more engaged Unicorn Community.

Thank you for your continued support of NCSSM and the Alumni Association.

Respectfully submitted,
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