



Governor's School of North Carolina

***A Summer Program for Gifted and
Talented High School Students***



Student Handbook

**Governor's School West | Winston-Salem State University | June 19 – July
16, 2022**



North Carolina Department of
PUBLIC INSTRUCTION

Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education | Governor's School of North Carolina
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WELCOME TO GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL WEST

Winston-Salem State University | Winston-Salem NC June 19 – July 16, 2022

Congratulations on your selection to attend the Governor's School of North Carolina! Our program, founded in 1963 by Governor Terry Sanford at Salem College in Winston-Salem, is the oldest statewide summer residential program in the nation for academically and/or intellectually gifted high school students. In 1978 the school was expanded to a second campus, which was established in Laurinburg and relocated to Meredith College in Raleigh in 2000. In 2019, the original Winston-Salem campus moved to High Point University in High Point and moved again in 2022 to Winston-Salem State University in Winston-Salem. The program is administered by the State Board of Education, and the NC Department of Public Instruction through the Division of Advanced Learning and Gifted Education. A Board of Governors, appointed by the State Board of Education, acts as an advisory body.

We have prepared this Student Handbook to introduce you to the living and learning community of Governor's School West (GSW). Many rich traditions have developed over the Governor's School's 50+ year history, traditions that distinguish its academic and residential life from other schools. We ask that you read about them now so that you will be fully aware of what to expect when you arrive on campus June 19th.

Many of our past students have spoken glowingly of our program and some of their testimonials are below.

It is what learning and school is supposed to be.

– GSW STUDENT, 2017

I have grown by being able to address my own feelings and listen to others' opinions.

– GSW STUDENT, 2018

*Governor's School truly helped me bloom as an individual intellectually and socially.
The atmosphere is so amazing, and people challenged me to push past or break mental boundaries.*

– GSW STUDENT, 2016

We assemble each summer primarily to explore ideas at the cutting edge of our intellectual and cultural lives. Although each class of students brings its own quirky individuality to the enterprise, common to all generations of Governor's School students (and faculty and staff) are the excitement and pleasure of encountering new ideas and arriving at new insights. We first want to describe the many-layered academic structure in which we pursue these ideas.

NOTE REGARDING POTENTIAL COVID 19 MITIGATION MEASURES

As you read the following handbook please keep in mind that while great progress has been made in dealing with the COVID 19 pandemic, any rules or guidelines outlined in this handbook are subject to be altered should guidelines shift between now and the beginning of the session, or over the course of the session. Any such changes will be fully communicated to students and families via email and our campus websites.

NOTE REGARDING CAMPUS WEBSITES

During the session the Governor's School West website (www.ncgsw.wordpress.com) is used to communicate information between the staff of Governor's School West, and the students and their families. This websites will begin to be updated as our full staff comes on site the week of June 13-17. The calendar for the upcoming week will generally be posted on the calendar on the Saturday prior to the week. Currently you may visit the website to see what events were held last summer to get a sense of the program's offerings.

OUR ACADEMIC LIFE

CLASSES

AREA I – Area I is the area of the student’s special interest and the basis on which he or she was chosen to attend Governor’s School. Each student will be immersed in one of five academic or five performing and visual arts disciplines. Here students become acquainted with contemporary developments within their discipline and consider these developments at a complex and theoretical level. The emphasis in every Area I discipline is on exploring concepts and ideas – specifically those in the forefront of each discipline – rather than on skills training. Students in the arts spend much of their Area I class time in active pursuit of their art, but interwoven with practice are discussions of ideas about that art. Academic students rotate through a variety of classes and teachers within their discipline, exploring contemporary thought.

AREA II – Each student attends other classes composed of students from each of the ten Area I disciplines. Here students and teachers explore connections between and among the ideas and theories central to Area I disciplines. Through readings and discussions, Area II provides students with a set of intellectual tools with which to consider their academic and artistic endeavors, as well as their personal beliefs and values, more thoughtfully and systematically. As integrative concepts emerge, the class attempts to construct an understanding of contemporary ways of thinking and of the culture that arises from them.

AREA III – This third class is composed of another group of students representing each of the ten Area I disciplines. Here students attempt to ground what they are learning in their Area I and II classes in their own personal experience. In a safe, open, and diverse environment, Area III teachers encourage students to share their genuine concerns and beliefs and to examine their habits of perception and thinking. Through this exchange, students become aware of a wide range of differing viewpoints and thinking and explore their own perspectives with new insights. Finally, they apply that understanding to their social worlds; that is, they try to discover links between ideas and actions, theory and practice. The tools that Area III provides are more astute observation and more discerning points of view.

CLASS SCHEDULE – We divide our academic day Monday through Friday into four class periods and on Saturday into two class periods. Area I classes meet during first and fourth periods Monday through Friday and during first period on Saturday. Area II and III classes each meet three times a week: during second or third period Monday, Wednesday, and Friday; or second or third period Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. In all Area II, III, and Area I academic classes the student/ teacher ratio is rarely more than 18/1. The ratio in Area I arts classes varies. The traditional schedule of periods and classes follows. Each student takes one Area II class and one Area III class; consequently, each will have some second and third periods free. Students will receive their specific class schedules on Opening Day.

SCHEDULE: MONDAY THROUGH FRIDAY		
PERIOD	TIME	AREA
1	9:00 am – 10:15 am	Area I
2	10:25 am – 11:40 am	Area II or III
3	11:50 am – 1:05 pm	Area II or III
4	2:00 pm – 3:15 pm	Area I

SCHEDULE: SATURDAY		
PERIOD	TIME	AREA
1	9:00 am – 10:15 am	Area I
2	10:25 am – 11:40 am	Area II or III

A TYPICAL CLASS – The academic environment of the Governor’s School thrives upon the intellectual curiosity of its students and faculty. Highly energized teachers invite students to explore new and significant ideas, not principally through lecture but through discussion and practice. Knowledge is something actively pursued, not passively encountered. Without the common burdens of covering a defined body of material in a set period of time, students and teachers can forge a safe, non-competitive intellectual environment where ideas from many disciplines are entertained and all active learners are taken seriously.

CREDITS AND GRADES – Students work seriously in their Governor’s School courses whether in classrooms, studios, or stages and outside of class whether in reading, problem solving, rehearsing, or researching. At their best, students become engaged with compelling new material and energized by the new ideas which arise from the encounter. The work itself provides its own motive and reward. The school does not administer tests or assign grades. It is our goal and mission to appeal to students’ innate, albeit sometimes hidden, love of learning and to inspire them through the material and the passion and brilliance of our instructors.

On the last day of the session, we present to each student a certificate for satisfactory completion of the program. Anyone leaving the program before that last day will not receive a certificate or be allowed to use their attendance at the Governor’s School for college applications, with exceptions made for medical or other unique circumstances.

DAILY SCHEDULE – Appendix A of this *2022 Student Handbook* contains a typical daily schedule. We expect students to attend all assigned classes and required events and to complete all assigned coursework. The amount of time required for daily class preparation will vary, but a rule of thumb is that students spend an hour or more a day reading, practicing, and/or rehearsing outside of class. As the daily schedule illustrates, outside of the four class periods a day, we schedule time for non-class academic events, recreation, social activities, student organizations, and personal moments.

We turn now to a variety of outside-of-class academic events and then to a range of communal, social, and recreational possibilities.

ACADEMIC EVENTS

***Our student led concerts, cornerstone events, and academic presentations will be open to families only.**

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL SPEAKERS SERIES – Each year, we invite visiting speakers to address the entire school. We select speakers who are active contributors to and able spokespersons for current knowledge in their field. We ask that they present challenging new perspectives that, like the ideas of our classrooms, engage the entire community in active, continuing discussion and debate. A question/answer time follows each presentation – a crucial part of our learning together. Many educators consider questions the most important intellectual tool we have and the Governor's School regards learning the art and science of substantive question asking to be an essential part of our mission. Nowhere is the exercise of question asking more challenging, dynamic, and important than in student response to outside experts.

Speaker assemblies are usually scheduled on Tuesday or Thursday evenings between 7:00 and 8:30 pm. All students are required to attend this extension and enlivening of the intellectual work of the community. Many of these visiting speakers come for extended stays so that students can enter into dialogue about their ideas in a variety of formal and informal settings. A sampling of former GS speakers follows:

SAMPLE OF RECENT GSW SPEAKERS	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Endia Beal (Photographer) – <i>Am I What You're Looking For?</i> • Patrick Gray (Engineer) – <i>Becoming a Spacefaring Species</i> • Mark Rabil (Attorney) – <i>The Trials of Darryl Hunt</i> • Aaron Mitchell (Medical Oncologist) – <i>United States Healthcare: Real Problems, Fake Solutions</i> • Ashe Gordon (Artistic Director) – <i>Do You See YOU in Music?</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Neil Weiner (Theoretical Physicist) – <i>Dark Matter, Dark Energy and the Fate of the Universe</i> • Ben Brantley (Theater Critic) – <i>A Critical Perspective: The Role of Theater and the Arts in Modern Society</i> • Angus MacLachlan (Screenwriter) – <i>Reflections on Life, Art, and Movies of Today</i> • Hank Klibanoff (Journalist) – <i>The Past is Never Dead: Civil Rights Cold Cases and Why They Matter</i>

PERFORMANCES AND ART EXHIBITIONS – Performing and visual arts students provide the school with a common experience of contemporary artistic expression in dance, music (orchestral and choral), theater, and visual arts. Concerts, performances, and exhibits occur throughout the summer and create common “texts” that we continuously discuss in and out of classes. We discover ways in which art forms can say what literal words cannot. Student performers and artists demonstrate that neither words nor numbers define the limits of our knowing and understanding. The entire community attends these school-wide events virtually and experiences the wonder of new ways of hearing and seeing, communicating and being moved. We conclude each week with a required concert on Saturday night at 8:00 pm.

ACADEMIC FAIRS AND SYMPOSIA – Students in the academic disciplines also present their work to the entire student body. On designated afternoons or evenings, students and faculty gather virtually to observe demonstrations, query poster presentations, watch plays, and listen to poetry or short fiction created by students in Mathematics, Natural Science, Social Science, Spanish, and English. As with artistic performance and expression, these nights provide high moments of intellectual expression and inquiry.

FILM SERIES – Many argue that film is the ultimate modern art form, a crystallization of images and sound that is uniquely a product of the last hundred years. The Governor’s School International film series occurs on Sundays and features internationally renowned twentieth century directors. After students and faculty watch two movies by the same director, they discuss the cinema’s visual language in the same way that English students might analyze print language or music students analyze auditory statement. These discussions not only deepen the understanding of particular films, directors, and movements, but also sharpen the ability to see and interpret any film. Other optional seminars use individual documentaries as springboards for discussion, especially in the natural sciences and social sciences.

SEMINARS, OPTIONAL SPEECHES, PERFORMANCES – Each day, faculty and staff members offer three or four optional events on varied topics at non-class times. These events allow students to encounter new ideas in fields outside of their Area I disciplines and faculty and staff to discuss ideas about which they care deeply. The seminars bring great intellectual energy and breadth to the entire community and allow deepening conversations in less formal settings. Also, faculty sometimes invite outside speakers to campus. These presentations are open to all and may be required for particular classes. We usually schedule at least two of these optional seminars for an hour before dinner (4:00 pm – 5:00 pm) and another two an hour after dinner (7:00 pm – 8:00 pm) before most evening athletic and social activities begin. Times, places, and subjects are broadcast in the weekly Governor’s School calendar. In the past, roughly a half to two-thirds of the community attended at least one program each day. The following is a sample from 100 or more optional seminars we have offered in each of the last few years.

SAMPLE OF RECENT OPTIONAL SEMINAR TOPICS

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Why Do We Laugh?</i> • <i>Counting to Infinity</i> • <i>Photojournalism Workshop</i> • <i>The Ethics of Assistance</i> • <i>Aesthetics of Choreography</i> • <i>Women in Comic Books: The Subjugation of Superpowers</i> • <i>I Robot: Exploring Ideas in Artificial Intelligence</i> • <i>Magritte and How We Interpret Art</i> • <i>General Relativity Made Generally Clear</i> • <i>The Shape of the Universe</i> • <i>Better than Crossfire: The Right, The Left, and the Bereft</i> • <i>The Mathematics of Music or the Music of Mathematics</i> • <i>The Science of Soapfilm</i> • <i>The Cube</i> • <i>Are We There Yet? – Women in Science</i> • <i>What is Mime? What is Pantomime?</i> • <i>The Meaning of Life and other Wittgensteinian Answers</i> • <i>The Trouble with Brunnian Circles</i> • <i>The Paradox of Southern Feminism</i> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Shakespeare vs. Tupac</i> • <i>Acting for Non-Actors</i> • <i>Word Play: Experiments in Poetry</i> • <i>Merengue Dancing</i> • <i>The Concept of Concept Albums</i> • <i>Bioethics of Genetic Testing & Stem Cells</i> • <i>Life & Debt: Global Economic Policy</i> • <i>Topology & Order Parameters in Physics</i> • <i>Individuality, Conformity, & Society</i> • <i>Suburbia & the New American Home</i> • <i>Exploring the Golden Ratio: The Story of Phi</i> • <i>Invisible Children: The Film and its Implications</i> • <i>Design for Ecological Democracy</i> • <i>Magic as a Social Tool in Harry Potter</i> • <i>When the Levees Broke</i> • <i>Completely Cage</i> • <i>The Spiral toward War</i> • <i>Aristotelian Virtues in The Office</i>
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RECURRING EVENTS – In addition to the Optional Seminars, faculty and staff offer recurring events that allow members of the community to study a subject in greater depth. During recent years for instance, students met either weekly or biweekly to participate in Salsa Dancing, Introduction to Improv, Long Distance Running, Poetry Workshop, Spanish Lunch Table, and First to Go to College. Faculty also offered Reading Circles – periodic meetings with students to discuss a common text.

SPECIAL DAYS

OPENING DAY – Residence halls open for registration the morning of Sunday, June 19th. For efficiency, and to provide time opportunity for COVID-19 protocols, a staggered move-in schedule will be used, and students/families will be notified of their assigned time in early June. After students have registered and moved in, they will begin an afternoon and evening of orientation. They will meet staff, the faculty, and the Site Director, take a walking tour of the campus, attend residence hall meetings, gather for the community's opening convocation and, just as they are about to drop, for a final social event. Details of this crucial (and longest) day will arrive in an email in June.

CLOSING DAY – On the final day, day, July 16, students attend their Area I classes at 9:00 am. Following their Area I class there will be a closing assembly. The details and logistics of this day will be shared later in the session on the Governor's School website, www.ncgovschool.org, or the Governor's School West website, ncgsw.wordpress.com

Through these multiple events for students and staff only, the Governor's School offers students structure and flexibility. We will clearly communicate events that are required – for instance, classes, school-wide convocations, speakers, concerts, and performances and will also provide time and space for flexible and independent time. The aim of these varied academic offerings is to allow us for four weeks to live in ways that are intellectually rigorous, culturally engaged, and aesthetically rich. Many of your friends will question why you would CHOOSE to spend four weeks of your summer at school. We hope this description helps you understand how we envision and measure learning in its most creative, robust, and important dimensions.

The student body is so connected it makes it unlike any school I have ever been to.

– GSW ART STUDENT, 2010

I fell back in love with learning.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2017

*I think the freedom we have is by far the strongest aspect [of the program].
It teaches us all to grow up and take care of ourselves.*

– GSW SOCIAL SCIENCE STUDENT, 2010

HOST CAMPUS PARTNER: Winston-Salem State University

Governor's School West is fortunate to be located at Winston-Salem State University, a beautiful, vibrant and exciting campus that welcomes our students, faculty and staff for the first time this summer. Winston-Salem State University is extending a warm and generous welcome to the North Carolina Governor's School. WSSU's residential and dining facilities are excellent. You will also attend classroom, convocation and performance spaces that are of professional quality and conducive to both community development and personal growth. Being a residential school is central to our shared endeavor. The opportunities for constant interaction and common experience are vital to what we do. Dialogues begun in classes and assemblies continue over meals and in residence halls. Still, the rigors of living in a community among 400 students and over 60 faculty and staff within a vibrant university environment present many students with challenging adjustments. We hope the following description of our residential arrangements will help you form clear and resonant images of our life together. We turn first to the people essential to your experience of residential life.

OUR RESIDENTIAL LIFE

RESIDENTIAL LIFE STAFF

DEANS OF STUDENTS – The deans of students are the liaisons between students, faculty, Teaching Assistants/Counselors (TACs), medical staff, and families. They provide consistent support and wise counsel for our residential and academic lives. The Day Dean is on campus and available from 8:30 am – 5:00 pm; the Night Dean is on campus and available from 5:00 pm – 8:30 am. Students and families will receive their phone numbers on Opening Day.

TEACHING ASSISTANTS/COUNSELORS – Teaching Assistants/Counselors (TACs) are on duty from 5:00 pm to 8:00 am every evening and night. Each TAC lives on a student resident hall and supervises the students. These TACs are present in the residence halls and on campus to join students in evening activities, to aid students with personal needs, and to assist the school in its concern for student security and comfort. The TACs (most of whom are former Governor's School students) also assist faculty and administrators as teaching or administrative assistants. As a consequence, throughout most days they are on campus actively participating in the life of the school.

WELLNESS TEAM –

- The Wellness Team includes the Medical Coordinator/Assistant and a School Counselor.
- There will be a Wellness Team on campus and available throughout the day during the school week. On weekends, there will be medical personnel available as well and the counselor on emergency basis.
- At WSSU, the Student Health Services will also be partnering with the GS Staff to provide services during the week.
- There are also many other staff available to support the wellness of students each day, including but not limited to, Deans of Students, Teaching Assistants/Counselors, Site Director, etc.
- Specific office hours for students will be determined and shared Opening Day at each campus.
- No medical or behavioral treatment will be provided on campus, other than basic first aid and behavioral interventions.
- If care is needed beyond what is provided on campus, students will be taken to Urgent Care or the Emergency Room. Parents will be contacted as soon as possible.
- Telehealth visits with established therapists/medical personnel, will be supported and facilitated through the Wellness Team.
- Students may contact family/friends via personal devices during non-class time. If a student does not have access to personal devices, the Governor's School Office will provide access.
- If there are off-campus medical needs, please contact GS Coordinator, Rodney.Allen@dpi.nc.gov. We encourage telehealth appointments as often as possible and needed injections, like allergy shots, to occur before and after session, if possible.

NOTE: There are multiple forms regarding medical history, waivers, insurance cards, etc. to be signed and submitted with registration.

MEDICATION –

- Over-The-Counter medications:
 - Students may bring Over-The Counter medications for personal use. These will remain with the student.
 - At Winston-Salem State University, there is a pharmacy open during the week where student may purchase OTC medications.
- Prescription medications:

- Students will not be permitted to keep prescription medications with them, except emergency-use medications. They will be locked with the Wellness Team.
- Student/families will “check-in” prescription medications with the Medical Coordinator on Opening Day. Each prescription must be in its original packaging and accompanied by an administration plan by the physician. GS Administration Plans are available online.
- Emergency-use medications must also go through the “check-in” process so that staff are aware of student needs and there is documentation.
- Students will come to the Wellness Office and self-administer the medication.
- The Medical Coordinator or another staff member will be responsible for retrieving the stored medication and observe the student taking the medications and notate on the medication log.
- Governor’s School staff will not be injecting any medications, other than emergency use.

NOTE: Medication Administration Plans must be submitted for each prescription medication on campus

SECURITY – Winston-Salem State University is dedicated to the security and safety of everyone who visits the campus. Winston-Salem State University has a full staff of campus security officers and work closely with the Winston-Salem Police Department to ensure the safety of all of our students. There are more than 60 emergency call boxes (designated with a blue light) conveniently located throughout campus for students should they need to contact public safety.

- Emergencies
 - Access WSSU Campus police at any emergency call box.
- Campus Police: Emergency: (336) 750 - 2911
- Non-Emergency: (336) 750 -2900

RESIDENCE HALLS

STUDENT RESIDENCE HALL ROOMS – Governor’s School West students will be housed in the following residence halls on the Winston-Salem State University campus this summer; **Covington Hall and Martin-Schexnider (MSX) Hall**

Also, each residence hall will be staffed by one or more Governor’s School Teaching Assistant/Counselor (TAC) who will live on the hall and serve as a guide for students. Other residential faculty/staff will reside in Belk Hall, separate from students. **Students are not permitted to visit this faculty/staff residential area for any reason.**

ROOM ASSIGNMENTS – The Governor’s School West Office will send you the name and email of your roommate in early June so that you may contact your roommate and coordinate your plans. In the past, students have found it especially helpful to organize a shared bringing of materials.

CELL PHONES – Most students own and use cell phones regularly throughout their day. We are sympathetic with students and families who want to be in touch via these phones and do not prohibit them; however, our work together has increasingly been jarred and interrupted by their presence. Consequently, we have developed guidelines for their use. Students must keep cell phones and any other handheld electronic devices turned off and out of sight during all parts of the academic day (that is, class, optional seminars, speeches, and performances). Because this requirement may unsettle your usual expectations, let us reiterate: on a typical academic day, cell phones should be out of sight and out of hearing during class periods between 9:00 am and 3:15 pm and during any other academic times or in academic spaces. Academic spaces include: Classrooms, concert halls, the theater and any other area where classwork or Governor’s School events are being held.

If families need to reach students because of emergencies during these times, they can call the Governor’s School West Office (8:30 am – 5:00 pm; phone number provided on Opening Day). If students want to use cell phones for other purposes, we ask they wait for other moments or use other means to take pictures, check clocks, or text messages.

PERSONAL COMPUTERS – Students are encouraged to bring their own personal computers, or tablets. Students can use their own computers in their residence hall rooms with Winston-Salem State University’s campus-wide wireless internet access. Details regarding internet access will be shared upon arrival on campus. As with cell phones, we encourage students to minimize time they might normally devote to the web: streaming movies, online gaming and other online activities, and immerse themselves in the unique social and intellectual life of the community. Here are some of our reasons: 1) we have a rich program in our classes and from 3:30 pm until lights out; 2) residence hall room computer use can isolate individuals and discourage full participation in what we uniquely offer; 3) we have found the temptation to watch late-night movies and/or play video games in residence hall rooms usually results in sleep deprivation the following day which may diminish their experience of the program.

PERSONAL PROPERTY – Students are responsible for their own bedding and bath linens including the following:

- XL Twin size sheets **
- Pillows
- Bath Towels
- Blanket and/or bedspread

Because students are also responsible for their own laundry, personal items (linens and clothing) should be clearly marked with your name. We also recommend that you consider bringing the following items:

- Alarm clock
- Clothes iron
- Umbrella
- Trash Cans
- Toiletries
- Hair dryer, curling iron
- Laundry detergent
- Hand sanitizer for room
- Clothes hangers
- Shower shoes
- Refrigerator (One per room)
- Cleaning supplies for their rooms

We have had very few losses of students’ personal belongings, but the Governor’s School does not provide insurance to cover loss. We encourage families to check this standard provision in their homeowners’ insurance policies.

SPENDING MONEY – All student meals and lodging expenses are covered by their tuition. Students may wish to have some spending money for ordering food, or purchasing food from locations other than the dining hall on campus or items from the Student Store and Campus Pharmacy

In addition, students will have opportunities to purchase shirts, summer books and other Governor’s School memorabilia from the Governor’s School West Office during registration and throughout the session.

RESIDENCE HALL LIVING

STUDENT VISITATION – Governor’s School students’ Identification Cards (see below) grant access only to allowed residence hall floors and rooms. Students may not visit residential rooms other than their own. Winston-Salem State University has many other common spaces for coed visitation. These will be designated and discussed during orientation. In addition, each year various outdoor areas become animated public gathering spaces. In the afternoons and evenings, the campus resembles a vital public square in which individuals and groups converse, play Frisbee and other games, read, work math problems, write poetry, and play all sorts of musical instruments.

CURFEWS AND ROOM CHECKS – Curfews are posted for all seven nights of the week. TACs enforce curfews and conduct room checks each night. Failure to meet curfew or to be present in your room for room check is a serious offense. For instance, if curfew is at 10:30 pm, students should be on their residence hall halls at 10:30 and in their rooms with their lights out by 11:30. After 11:30, quiet conversation in the students’ residence hall room is acceptable, but the lights must be out. Phone calls, music, computer use or movie watching, and similar activities are not allowed. We recognize that it is tempting to visit with residence hall friends late into the night, but morning fatigue is so predictable a consequence that your TACs and Night Dean will help you live within these guidelines by enforcing them. The Deans and the TACs work with the Site Director to set appropriate curfews, which may be later on weekends. If curfew hours change, notices will be posted in the residence halls and on the school calendars and notice boards.

RESIDENCE HALL MEETINGS – TACs regularly conduct required residence hall meetings. These are significant times when information is presented, rules are set, and problems are aired and resolved.

IDENTIFICATION CARDS/RESIDENCE HALL KEYS – Winston-Salem State University will issue special *Identification Cards* that will give students access to their residence hall (and specific floors in that building) and to particular buildings throughout campus. Keys will be issued to allow students to enter their assigned residential room. A Passport Card also provide access to meals in the dining hall and selected restaurants on campus and can be used for other campus purchases, provided sufficient funds are uploaded to it (see the Cashless Campus/Spending Money section). Each *Identification Card* will have the student's name and photo along with the Governor's School logo to distinguish our students from others on campus. Identification Cards/room keys are essential for your coming and going. If you lose your card or key, the replacement cost is \$10.00.

LAUNDRY – Students are responsible for their own laundry. Clothes washers and dryers (free of charge) are located in each residence hall but students must bring their own laundry detergent.

SOAP – Students should bring hand soap and hand sanitizer for their daily use.

FIRE DRILLS – We expect students to adhere to the fire regulations posted in each residence hall. In addition, we ask that you not bring candles, lighters, matches, and other types of flammable material. Winston-Salem State University Security officers conduct fire drills periodically and all residents must follow posted procedures.

OUR COMMUNAL LIFE

The Governor's School is a living/learning community that is clearly situated between high school and college life. We grant students many freedoms associated with university study, especially the freedom of choice between numerous and diverse intellectual and social experiences. But students are governed by rules and regulations associated with residential life for high school students. The honor code places specific constraints on the individual student, but other expectations enumerated below also ensure that we remain a safe, civil, and focused community.

THE HONOR SYSTEM

A copy of the Honor Code is located in Appendix B.

HONOR CODE – We are serious about the Governor's School Honor Code which each student and parent or guardian signs with the acceptance of the invitation to attend. The spirit of the place is not one of rules and regulations, but we are clear about what we can and will not tolerate in this living/learning community. Adherence to the honor code's explicit terms exercises self-discipline and responsibility, ensures student safety, and frees the community to focus on the new ideas and new persons around us. We include a copy of the Honor Code in Appendix B of this 2022 Student Handbook so that you can review those terms again. *Violation of any of these six propositions may result in immediate dismissal.* This is a twofold tragedy, both in the student's dismissal and in the loss of the spot for another deserving student who might have come. Other established principles like attendance at class and required assemblies and performances are also essential, but the administration might consider extenuating circumstances before acting. Less serious infractions will result in clear, but less severe consequences. Persistent infractions of stated policies can, of course, lead to dismissal. The decision to dismiss a student is made by the Site Director with the counsel of the deans and those faculty and staff members who are directly involved in the honor code violation. The following are details on each Honor Code item.

Failure to adhere to the established pandemic protocols will be considered equivalent to a violation of the Honor Code. The Director at the NC Department of Public Instruction will also be consulted.

PROHIBITED/ILLEGAL SUBSTANCES – All tobacco products (both smoking and smokeless), alcoholic beverages, illegal drugs and drug paraphernalia are strictly prohibited. Smoking of any kind (e.g., cigarettes, e- cigarettes, vaping, etc.) is prohibited for all students. Also, students cannot share or misuse prescription medications or misuse common items (e.g., those that contain alcohol or other harmful substances).

INTEGRITY OF THE COMMUNITY – GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL WEST AND WINSTON-SALEM STATE UNIVERSITY POLICIES, STATE

AND FEDERAL LAWS – Students must abide by all state and federal laws, as well as the rules and policies of Winston-Salem State University and the Governor's School. These include but are not limited to the regulations designed to uphold the safety of the students and the maintenance of the campus. Student may not possess weapons. Theft, vandalism, shoplifting, and willful or negligent destruction of property are also prohibited.

Computing – Access to the internet enables students to explore thousands of libraries, databases, and bulletin boards while exchanging messages with internet users throughout the world, and the use of the internet for educational projects will assist our students in preparing for success in life and work in the 21st century. The Governor's School and Winston-Salem State University may monitor network traffic to ensure compliance with the Acceptable Use Policy outlined below, but the parents and guardians of our students are ultimately responsible for setting and conveying any additional standards that their children should follow when using media and information sources.

Acceptable Use Policy – Access to computers and networks is a privilege that requires the user to act responsibly. Users must observe all relevant laws and regulations, maintain the integrity of the systems, and respect the rights of other users in an effective, ethical, moral, and legal manner. Misuse of computing, networking, or information resources may result in dismissal from the Governor's School and criminal prosecution under applicable statutes. Specific rules and responsibilities for being on WSSU will be shared upon arrival.

Winston-Salem State University and Governor's School Property – Just as students are responsible for their own personal property, so too they are responsible for any damage they inflict on residence halls or any other Winston-Salem State University or Governor's School property. Students profit from the beauty of Winston-Salem State University's buildings and grounds, and we expect students to treat these facilities with care and respect. Over the years, at each Governor's School campus, we have had only rare instances of student damage and destruction of property. However, if damage occurs whether from carelessness, mischief, or malice, Winston-Salem State University understandably will charge the responsible students.

HOW WE TREAT EACH OTHER – The third item in the Honor Code addresses verbal and nonverbal behavior. Governor's School classes, activities and events explore a wide range of topics, employing our long-held motto of 'question everything' to delve beyond the superficial and the assumed and into matters that may be challenging and even uncomfortable at times for some or all of us. However, this successfully happens only when we welcome and affirm all students, inclusive of all backgrounds. Students are invited to engage in a free and open exchange of ideas and views, both in and out of classes; however, doing so in a manner that others can reasonably interpret as threatening, abusive or intimidating will not be tolerated. Every student is deserving of an environment that both challenges intellectually and maintains one's personal safety and dignity.

INAPPROPRIATE SEXUAL ACTIVITY – In its fourth proposition, the Honor Code lists: "I will refrain from inappropriate sexual conduct..." Governor's School is a residential environment that is open to students, staff, parents, and visitors. While we expect students to sometimes display affection with one another, we also expect that the display will not exceed appropriate limits. Certain displays of affection, like extended kissing or consensual physical contact of a sexual nature, may still violate the Honor Code. Also, any sexual behavior between students and staff is strictly prohibited.

Governor's School does not condone sexual intimacy between students. Inappropriate sexual behavior can include full or partial nudity in an intimate situation, or sexual intercourse of any type. When students are in doubt about appropriateness, they should ask an adult on staff – a TAC, an instructor, or an administrator – for guidance. Inappropriate sexual conduct also includes sexting or the sharing of sexually explicit images.

Sexual Harassment – All students are expected to respect the physical and emotional boundaries set by their fellow students. Sexual harassment will not be tolerated. During orientation we will help sensitize students to the nature and consequences of unwelcome sexual conduct, either verbal or physical, that an individual perceives to be discomforting, hostile, or abusive and that interferes with or distracts from that individual's work.

VEHICLES AND TRAVEL – Students are not allowed to have automobiles, or any other form of wheeled locomotion, on campus.

OFF-CAMPUS TRAVEL/VISITORS:

- Students will remain on campus the entire session, with the shortening of the session and with concerns for COVID-19, this will support a fully immersive experience for the Governor's School program. Exceptions will be made case-by-case for medical or life/death situations. Students will not be permitted for off-campus events, such as ACT/SAT, various summer competitions, family trips, etc.
- Students may contact family/friends via personal devices during non-class time. If a student does not have access to personal devices, the Governor's School Office will provide access when needed. Students may be excused from class for religious observances.
- Parents/Guardians may "check-out" their children on Sundays, the only non-instructional day, for up to four hours between 9am-3pm.
 - Students are encouraged to wear a mask while off-campus and follow mitigation protocols while away.
 - Unvaccinated students will be required to mask when returning to campus for five days.
- Families will be permitted on campus for planned program events, such as cornerstone events, performances, etc.
- Visitors must be masked while on campus.

BOUNDARIES AND CURFEWS – Students must stay within the proscribed boundaries of the Governor's School West campus except when involved in school functions. In our June mailing, we will enclose a Winston-Salem State University campus map. On Opening Day, we will distribute boundary maps will more clearly outline authorized pedestrian travel within the campus.

STUDENT ORGANIZATIONS

STUDENT PUBLICATIONS – The Publications Coordinator advises a publications staff comprised of student volunteers who produce weekly communications and a final summer digital book. The coordinator interviews interested students for key editorial positions. Members of the publications staff perform an essential role. The publications typically provides a fresh, unconventional, timely, and excellent forum for the discussion of GS events, personalities, and ideas. The summer book preserves images of our common life (verbal and visual) and records the history of the 2022 Governor's School.

Within the first week, students have usually fallen into natural rhythms of Governor's School West life and move as naturally to the cafeteria as they would to their own kitchens and to their residence halls as easily as to their front doors at home. As you anticipate this four week experience and as you adjust to it, the following can be a guide.

I have never stayed at any overnight program before, and I have had virtually no independence. GSW gave me confidence in myself and my abilities; I felt at home from the moment I first got here. Now I know I can do anything.

– GSW MATH STUDENT, 2003

I could have never expected this place to be what it is. Governor's School is like living in a Utopian Society, one which you never want to leave. Not only were my fellow students incredibly talented and wonderful people, but the TACs and faculty were absolutely amazing. When you say that you are going to take care of us, you don't lie.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2008

Governor's School is what public education should be...in which we learn ideas and concepts and how to discuss problems, not fight over them, all while making friends and evolving into our own.

– GSW STUDENT, 2016

GETTING STARTED

REGISTRATION – Registration will be open from 9:00 am – 3:00 pm, Sunday, June 19. In our early June email, you will receive a campus map, explicit registration instructions, a schedule for Opening Day, and roommate assignments. Through residence hall meetings, campus tours, Area I meetings, a convocation, and finally a social, we hope to orient you to the school and to dispel the natural uncertainties of the new and unknown.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL OFFICE – The Governor's School West Office serves as the campus administrative headquarters. Staff members open the main office from 8:30 am until 5:00 pm Monday through Friday and from 8:30 am until 12:00noon on Saturday. The Governor's School West Office is the place to seek help with lost items, Governor's School t-shirt and summer book purchases, and general daytime perplexities. At registration, families will receive detailed names and phone numbers of staff so that they can call appropriate staff if the need arises.

NAMETAGS – As already noted in the *Residence hall Living* section, each student will receive a Identification Card. This also serves as your nametag and must be worn at *ALL times*. These may appear to be an initial and temporary identification, not pertinent after the first few days. In fact, they will serve as an identification card all session long – in the dining hall and other in order to be served, in the library in order to check out books. As importantly, they distinguish Governor's School students from Winston-Salem State University students and from visitors on campus. Students are not permitted to use someone else's Passport Card. Also, as earlier noted, lost Cards can be replaced but for a substantial fee. Governor's School lanyards will be provided on Opening Day.

DRESS – The Governor's School has no explicit dress code. As you pack for four weeks, we suggest that you include the kind of casual clothing you might wear at school in warm weather. We also recommend bringing several pairs of comfortable shoes. Though Winston-Salem State University is generally accessible, you are going to be walking to several locations each day. Sweaters or jackets, long pants, and rain coats or umbrellas will occasionally be welcomed in cool auditoriums or on wet evenings. In addition to obvious clothing norms, for reasons of health and safety, shirts and shoes must be worn in all academic and dining spaces. Although we are essentially casual in our dress, you may wish to include a few items you would choose to wear in a more formal setting. Music, theater, and dance students will receive teacher letters enumerating the attire required for concerts, performances. **One more important item of note:** Winston-Salem State University does not permit wearing or displaying items that are crude, vulgar, uncivil or demeaning.

STUDENT MATERIALS AND SUPPLIES – The Governor's School furnishes most all essential academic materials and supplies. Students in every discipline will receive a faculty letter that enumerate what materials and supplies they should bring for classes, practice and/or performances. We do not provide notebooks, paper, pens or pencils.

DAY-TO-DAY

EMAIL – Wireless internet is available throughout the campus.

MAIL – TACs distribute mail in the residence halls at curfew. Students can post out-going mail in a drop box in the Governor's School West Office. Mail should be addressed to:

Albert H. Anderson Conference Center
Conferences & Institutes, RM G08
ATTN: Staff/Student Name-Governors School
1545 Reynolds Park Road
Winston Salem, NC 27110

BIKES/MOPEDS/SCOOTERS/ROLLER-BLADES/SKATEBOARDS – Governor's School does not permit its students to use any wheeled locomotion (i.e., skateboards, bikes, mopeds, scooters, etc.), except for individuals who require it due to a disabling condition. The Winston-Salem State University campus is spacious but compact enough to move around easily.

PORTABLE ELECTRONIC DEVICES – As with cell phones, we prohibit portable electronic devices in academic times and places (e.g., classes and performances). We have also observed that the less students listen to their private music as they walk to and from classes, the more time they have to enter into the conversations the school values.

RESOURCES

WELLNESS CENTER HOURS – We will post daily times when students can be seen for their medical needs. TACs provide transportation to local hospitals for after-hours and weekend emergencies. First aid kits are located with TACs on each residence hall.

MEDICAL RECORDS – All medical records submitted are on file in the health center office. The more detailed these records are, the better support we can provide. We draw your attention especially to the need to note *all prescription drugs that you presently take*.

MEDICATION – Ordinary non-prescription medical supplies are the responsibility of the student. Students receiving allergy shots or other prescription medicines must contact the office on Opening Day, June 19. We will provide more details regarding the location of the medical professionals on site as those plans are finalized.

ABSENCES FROM CLASS – The Medical Team provides the names of students seen at the health center whose conditions warrant absence from class to the Day Dean of Students and to the Governor's School West Office. The staff notifies appropriate teachers and TACs. Except in cases of illness, only the Site Director can excuse absence from class. When students are ill and have not yet gone to the health center, they must notify their TAC, the Day or Night Dean of students, or the Governor's School West Office. They cannot remain in the residence hall; they must go to the health center.

EXTENDED ILLNESS – While we strive to maintain our community throughout the session, if a student should be faced with an extended illness, we will contact the student's parents and ask them to come to campus take them home so that they can receive the needed medical care.

DINING OPTIONS – As part of its regular operations and its gracious hosting of Governor's School West, Winston-Salem State University is providing outstanding dining. Various nutritious and appealing meals (including many non-vegetarian, vegetarian, vegan and gluten-free options) are offered each day. After scanning in with your Identification Card, you may have as much as you like while remaining in the dining area, if the dining area is full, or exceeds posting restrictions, students will be expected to get a to go meal, and take their meals to another location to eat. (Any special diet concerns, such as food allergies, should be noted on your *Special Needs Form*.) NOTE: These meals are provided as part of your Governor's School selection; however, scanning is still required to track access by eligible Governor's School community members.

DINING HALL HOURS (TENTATIVE)

- Monday – Friday: Breakfast: 7:00 am – 10:15 am
Lunch: 10:45 am – 3:00 pm
Dinner: 4:15 pm – 7:00 pm
- Saturday – Sunday: Breakfast: 8:00 am – 10:30 am
Brunch: 10:30 am – 3:00 pm
Dinner: 4:30 pm – 7:00 pm

RELIGIOUS SERVICES – Attendance at religious services is a personal decision for each student. We encourage students seeking religious services to attend virtual services that they may attend online. Students will be excused from class with approval from the Dean of Students for religious observation. Students with questions regarding religious services should speak with the on-site director, or dean of students.

ACTIVITIES

SOCIAL ACTIVITIES – An Activities Coordinator plans social and recreational events for students in the afternoons and evenings and on the weekends. They post outings, nightly activities, and sports schedules, on the weekly calendar. The evenings' social events begin around 9:00 pm.

RECREATIONAL ACTIVITIES – Recreational activities will be organized around student interests. Fitness Center will be available each day at times to be determined at the start of the session. The center includes a wide range of cardio equipment as well many recreational activities. Each cardio machine features a high definition touch screen display with HD television, web browser, and Apple/Android accessible media jacks. Governor's School West does not have access to either golf or tennis facilities this summer. The campus pool (also at the Slane Student Center) will not be available for most of the summer, as it is an amenity used by Winston-Salem State University students every day. With that, some Governor's School-only events may be scheduled in the pool area, so students may want to bring appropriate swimwear.

Winston-Salem State University does not have a cross-country track, but in recent years, members of the Governor's School faculty and staff run with students on campus in the early mornings several days per week. Students may not run outside of the established campus boundaries.

Governor's School administration and Winston-Salem State University officials are exploring intramural sports and other outdoor recreational opportunities. These activities, usually in late afternoons/early evenings, will welcome any Governor's School student who wishes to participate, as the Governor's School emphasis is more on exercise and fun than on team competitiveness. We furnish some equipment, but we encourage you to bring your gloves, tennis rackets and balls, Frisbees, and other personal sports equipment.

I no longer feel like an outsider. I now know there are other people like me in the world. I feel solved.

– GSW CHORAL MUSIC STUDENT, 2012

I leave GSW with a spark and a fire that I never knew existed within me.

I wouldn't trade this experience for anything – I love GSW.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2008

*I know you're scared, and that you'd prefer to sit on the couch and watch Disney movies.
Yet, Governor's School launches you into dimensions of the world that I didn't know existed...*

After the wonderful six-week experience, I'm no longer afraid to grow up.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2010

Governor's School is the perfect experience for those who want to engage with others and want to learn and try new things.

– GSW STUDENT, 2017

We plan Governor's School activities for seven days a week. We are different from a summer school or even most summer enrichment programs as we undertake to incorporate many different experiences and many layers of experience in our common life.

Should a student have to leave campus for medical reasons, the Site Director will communicate with the student and their parents regarding how to proceed.

Should you leave the school early or for any period of time without approval, however, we cannot award you a Governor's School certificate and we will notify your nominating school/school system.

On Sunday, June 19, you will be greeted by the Site Director, dozens of faculty and staff, and Winston-Salem State University personnel to begin what we hope will be a vital, rare, and memorable experience. We hope this 2022 Student Handbook helps you prepare for it.

APPENDIX A: Governor's School West Typical Daily Schedule

8:00 – 9:00	Breakfast
9:00 – 10:15	Area I Class (Monday – Saturday)
10:25 – 11:40	Area II Class (MWF) ¹ Area III Class (MWF)
11:50 – 1:05	Area II Class (MWF and TTS) Area III Class (TTS)
12:00 – 1:45	Lunch
2:00 – 3:15	Area I Class (Monday – Friday) ²
4:00 – 5:00	Optional Seminars Student Organizations: Summerbook or Newspaper Meetings, Recreation
5:00 – 6:30	Dinner
6:00 – 7:00	Rehearsal (MWF) ³
7:00 – 9:00	Optional Seminars or School-wide Speakers ⁴ or Recreation
9:00 – 10:00	Social Activity
10:30	Curfew
11:30	Lights Out

1. No Area II or III classes are scheduled at second period on Tuesday and Thursday. These periods are available for extended Area I work – visiting presenters, field trips, films, rehearsals, projects. On Saturday, third period classes are taught at second period, so all Saturday classes end by 11:40 am

2. Chorus, Dance, and Theater often keep their students until 4:00 pm.

3. On speaker-free Tuesday or Thursday evenings, optional seminars can begin at 6:00 pm. This will provide a long span for extended seminars such as film series.

4. We try to schedule our major schoolwide Governor's School speakers each week on Tuesday or Thursday evenings from 7:00 pm – 8:15 pm.

APPENDIX B: Governor's School Honor Code



NORTH CAROLINA GOVERNOR'S SCHOOL

HONOR CODE

All NC Governor's School students are privileged recipients of the benefits of a program supported and administered by the North Carolina Department of Public Instruction (NCDPI) and thereby represent North Carolina's public schools. State leaders, NCDPI, and the nominating schools expect Governor's School students to act maturely and to behave responsibly. The Governor's School Board of Governors has established a code of conduct that governs the school's communal life. The Site Director, faculty, teaching assistants/counselors and staff direct and support students in living within this code.

Throughout the history of the NC Governor's School, the Honor Code has proven vital to this community's maintaining its focus on essential matters. Individual students are responsible for the choices they make while in residence. Any Honor Code violation will be thoroughly but quickly reviewed by the Site Director and the Coordinator, and if warranted by the NCDPI Director. Consequences will be determined on a case-by-case basis and can include prompt student dismissal from the Governor's School with the violation reported to the student's school/school system (Superintendent, Principal, and School Counselor). ***Due to the brevity of the session, dismissals are final decisions.**

The Student Handbook contains other Governor's School academic and residential expectations, for both the program and the host campus. The Director may also dismiss or put students on probation for serious or repeated violations of these expectations including, but not limited to, the established principle that students will attend all assigned classes, and required events (concerts, performances, assemblies, etc.).

TO SIGNIFY YOUR AGREEMENT AND PROMISE TO LIVE WITHIN THIS HONOR CODE, BOTH YOU AND YOUR PARENT/GUARDIAN MUST SIGN AND SUBMIT THE HONOR CODE FORM IN THE NCGS REGISTRATION PACKET.

A Governor's School student becomes bound by this code upon arrival and registration on campus.

1. I will maintain the integrity of the Governor's School community and not violate the host school's policies or state or federal laws including, but not limited to, possession or use of a weapon, theft, shoplifting, vandalism, and willful or negligent destruction of property.
2. I will not possess or use tobacco (including e-cigarettes), alcohol, illegal drugs, controlled substances, or drug paraphernalia.
3. I will refrain from verbal and/or nonverbal behavior that can be reasonably interpreted as threatening, abusive or intimidating to others.
4. I will refrain from inappropriate sexual conduct including, but not limited to, unseemly public displays of affection. I understand that aside from the approved parlors, students and visitors are strictly forbidden from entering residence halls reserved for students of another gender.
5. I understand that I may not have a motor vehicle on campus. I will only ride in a motor vehicle that is driven by Governor's School staff on school business or by parents/guardians during the specified hours. Parents/families will only be allowed on campus during times established by the Site Director.
6. I will abide by the established curfews and boundary lines. I will only leave campus to participate in school functions or to walk within the boundaries drawn by the school during the approved hours. I understand that even when I am not on campus, I am still bound by the rules of this Honor Code.

North Carolina Governor's School West

There is no other place to have an experience quite like this one and it will change your life forever.

– GSW ENGLISH STUDENT, 2004

[GSW has been] the most worthwhile experience I've ever had. Between the other students, cultural exhibits, new ideas, [its] open nature, and teachers, I've never been happier.

– GSW SOCIAL SCIENCE STUDENT, 2005

I would like to tell friends] that this was the best summer of my life, that it was inspiring intellectually, emotionally, socially, that I learned and grew here more as a person than I did in an entire school year and that there is an amazingly supportive and engaging community here.

– GSW SOCIAL SCIENCE STUDENT, 2005

You will have the most amazing summer – you'll meet people both incredibly like and unlike yourself – your mind will be opened and it will help form you into a thoughtful, hopeful person.

– GSW STUDENT, 2003

I have found more than a life changing academic experience, I found who I want to be.

– GSW SOCIAL SCIENCE STUDENT, 2008

I loved meeting people from different parts of the state and realizing how different and similar we all were.

– GSW CHORAL MUSIC STUDENT, 2007

I'm a better musician. I've met some amazing people. I've made lifelong friends. I've stepped out of my comfort zone.

– GSW INSTRUMENTAL MUSIC STUDENT, 2016

This is a rare institution that values questions over answers. This place generates a culture that is brave and passionate about addressing the problems of our contemporary world.

– GSW TAC, 2005

I now fully understand the power of knowledge. Here, I've come to experience the most peculiar feeling of never wanting to leave while simultaneously desperate to get out, spread what I've learned, and change the world.

– GSW SPANISH STUDENT, 2011

I have become a more open-minded, harder-working person... my whole point of view on things has changed. I am no longer scared for the future; rather, ready to embrace it.

– GSW NATURAL SCIENCE STUDENT, 2011

It's completely different from high school. You're not forced to learn, it's fun to learn.

– GSW MATH STUDENT, 2005

The Governor's School challenged me to think in new and unique ways. It exceeded every expectation and surpassed its reputation. This was truly the best summer of my life.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2007

No job, trip to the beach or chill time with friends can compare with Governor's School. You gain such a strong sense of self and independence that any other summer activity seems trivial.

– GSW MATH STUDENT, 2006

Governor's School is a diverse educational experience like no other. Learning occurs everywhere.

– GSW STUDENT, 2016

I'm a more aware person and I've become such a better listener through this. I've stepped toward my life with an open heart and mind and compassion to everything I face and looking back 5 weeks ago I never would've guessed I'd be so happy with who I am and what has shaped me.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2012

I am ready to enter the world, do what I love, and never stop growing in knowledge and appreciation of the world around me.

– GSW ENGLISH STUDENT, 2012

It was like being able to live in my ideal community for 6 weeks; a really great and special nurturing environment.

– GSW DANCE STUDENT, 2007

It's not a school... it's the best summer of my life.

– GSW MATH STUDENT, 2006

When I read the quotes on the back of my student handbook, I scoffed. Surely these claims of 'changed lives' and 'unforgettable memories' were merely overly sentimental hyperbole. Now as I write this, I realize the complete truth of them. My entire outlook has changed; I cannot even find words that do this experience justice.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2008

If I had six weeks left to live and could have anything I wanted, I'd come back to Governor's School.

– GSW ENGLISH STUDENT, 2008

My mind was pushed to another level, one that I didn't think was possible. I feel like my eyes have been opened to a whole new world of critical thought.

– GSW ENGLISH STUDENT, 2011

There is no better summer program that combines those eager to learn with those eager to teach.

– GSW THEATER STUDENT, 2011