



## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Higher Institute of Arts and Technology (HIAT)

5861 Harrison Street Merrillville, IN 46410

Thursday, February 26, 2026 | 5:00 PM (CT)

### **I. Meeting Called To Order**

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 5:02 PM.

### **II. Pledge of Allegiance**

The Board of Directors recited the pledge of allegiance.

### **III. Roll Call**

#### **Board Member Attendance**

April Brown	Absent
Stephanie Davis	Present
Bridgett Harris	Present
Sharla Johnson	Present
Charles Reese	Present
George Tucker	Present

#### **a. Approval of Board Agenda**

Motion: George Tucker                      Support: Charles Reese

The board unanimously voted to approve the board agenda.

#### **b. Approval of Board Minutes from December 19, 2025**

Motion: George Tucker                      Support: Charles Reese

The board unanimously voted to approve the board minutes.

#### **IV. CMO Report**

##### **a. Principal and Academic Board Report**

Erin Simpson presented the principal and academic board report and provided updates on enrollment, new staff, school data, campus celebrations, upcoming events, and building updates.

##### **b. Financial Report**

Eva Spilker reviewed the December 2025 financial position, highlighting cash balances, days cash, and enrollment metrics. Following the financial summary, the Board reviewed the draft Form 990 return as part of the financial report.

#### **V. Committee Reports**

None

#### **VI. Old Business/Discussion Items**

None

#### **VII. New Business**

##### **a. Approval of 2026-2027 School Year Calendar**

Motion: Stephanie Davis                      Support: George Tucker

Yays: 5    Nays: 0

The board unanimously approved the 2026-27 school year calendar, incorporating the recommended amendments.

##### **b. Approval of 2026-2027 Board Meeting Calendar**

Motion: Stephanie Davis                      Support: George Tucker

Yays: 5    Nays: 0

The board unanimously approved the 2026-27 board meeting calendar.

##### **c. Approval of Education Services Provider (ESP) Renewal Agreement**

Motion: Charles Reese                      Support: George Tucker

Yays: 5    Nays: 0

The board unanimously approved the ESP renewal agreement.

#### **VIII. PTA**

Ms. Moore introduced herself as the newly appointed PTA President and announced that the association's next meeting is scheduled for March.

## **IX. Open Communication**

President Johnson provided an update regarding a Board member's interest in a staff position at the school. The discussion focused on the necessary steps for the member to transition from the Board to employment, including the fulfillment of specific professional prerequisites and the requirement to step down from the Board prior to any hire.

## **X. Meeting Adjourned**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Stephanie Davis                      Support: George Tucker

The meeting was adjourned at 5:45 PM.