

MINUTES OF THE

DIGITAL ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY GOVERNING BOARD

REGULAR MEETING

June 18, 2024

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the DATA Governing Board was called to order on this date at 11:10 a.m. at the DATA Auditorium, 1011 Lambertson Place, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A. Roll Call: quorum present

Board Members Present:

Ms. Jennifer McDonald, Chair
Ms. Deborah Martinez, Vice President
Ms. Tara Groneman

Board Members Excused:

Mr. Omar Durant, Secretary

Staff/Faculty Present:

Ms. Lisa Myhre, Director
Ms. Jeanette Perez, Division Head Grades 10-12
Ms. Alix Rael, Division Head Grades 7-9
Ms. Kris Quisenberry, Human Resources Coordinator
Mr. Jesse Gutierrez, School Business Official

Others Present:

Mr. Michael Vigil II, The Vigil Group

B. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Groneman moved to adopt the agenda, as published. Ms. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

- **Declaration of Conflicts**
- **Materials Read Prior to Meeting**

No conflicts were declared.

Board members stated that they had read the materials prior to this meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes: May 23, 2024, Regular Meeting

Ms. Martinez moved approval of the May 23, 2024, minutes. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

No one requested to speak.

III. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Division Head Report: Jeanette Perez / Alix Rael

➤ **S.O.S. Project**

Ms. Perez discussed the S.O.S. (Safeguard Our Satellites!) Project, which is a cross-curricular collaboration project that 2 of DATA's CTE teachers, Eileen Reynolds and Teisha Holloway, and Math teacher, Michelle Godfrey, have been working on for almost the entire year. This was a joint collaboration with DATA, some other schools around the state, and The Hyperspace Challenge team.

The goal of the project was to use art to shine a spotlight on the critical role that satellites and other space assets play in modern life, and the growing threats they face from space debris. There were 80 entries, with DATA students taking some of the top spots. They were honored at an awards ceremony held in conjunction with the first annual space fiesta at the railyards a couple of weeks ago. DATA students were also featured on KRQE, and Ms. Perez presented the news clip they did for the Board Members.

Chair McDonald suggested that, for the next academic year, the DATA board think about ways it might acknowledge the efforts of teachers when they go above and beyond, as they have with this project.

➤ **Charter School Conference**

Ms. Rael reported that she attended the charter conference last Thursday, when three teachers who collaborated on the S.O.S. Project did a presentation. Tesha Holloway, one of DATA's CTE teachers, did some data collection through surveys with the students where she looked at the quality of their work, etc., to track student engagement, content understanding, and content retainment. Ms. Holloway did this as part of her master's program, and Ms. Rael, Ms. Perez and Ms. Myhre plan to work with staff on incorporating and furthering this at DATA. They also would like the teachers to repeat this presentation at the start of the new year for the rest of the staff.

➤ **Discipline Policy**

Ms. Perez stated that they have been revising the student handbook and discipline portion of the handbook. Administration wanted them to more accurately reflect DATA's values as a school and community, and to include the restorative justice practices that are being incorporated.

Ms. Myhre said that, as part of the Black Education Act, they need board approval of the discipline policy. Because this hasn't been sent out to parents yet for their feedback, she asked that approval be contingent upon incorporating additional changes based on input from parents.

Chair McDonald moved for approval with this contingency. Ms. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

B. Director Report

➤ **Recording Board Meetings Policy**

Ms. Myhre stated the PED made a ruling that, starting in 2024-25, board meetings have to be recorded; and the recordings have to be kept for three years. The ruling also stipulates that people need to be able to make comments remotely. Accordingly, DATA will add Google Meets to the Board meetings to do recordings and add the required features. DATA will also continue to allow people to comment during the Public Forum time and expand the capabilities for doing so to include the chat in Google Meets. This will prevent the meeting disruptions that happen if commenters are allowed to interact with the board or comment at any time.

Ms. Quisenberry then presented the new Board Meeting Recordings Policy: "Recordings of full meetings will be posted on DATA's website in the Board section for as long as required by law. Public comments at Board meetings may be made by completing a brief registration ahead of time; then during the Public Forum time on the agenda, the person registered will be introduced and can make their comments in person verbally or in writing via Google Meets."

Ms. Groneman moved to approve the Board Meeting Recordings and Public Comments Policy. Ms. Martinez seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

➤ **BEA Conference**

➤ **Charter Renewal & Priorities for Next 5 Years**

Ms. Myhre reported that she and Kristin Reeder went to the Black Education Act Conference two weeks ago. This is the third year of the conference, and one of the ongoing discussions is around bias. The first year they worked on personal bias, and last year they looked at ways of addressing biases in the classroom, not only in practice, but ensuring they bring in different voices and perspectives through materials and discussion.

This year, they looked at systemic biases. One of the first things for DATA is the discipline policy and working on restorative practices, which she is excited about. This will involve training staff and teachers in creating and addressing strong relationships, equitable practices, routines, and

expectations. She commented that everyone is truly on board with this and knows this is the right thing to do. As a result, it is just about being mindful and reflecting on practices, as well as observing and tracking comments that are made during interactions between students and teachers. Ms. Myhre said another area DATA wants to grapple with is grading, which is systemically inequitable because statistically an “F” grade is anywhere from zero to 59%, while everything else is in 10% increments. This means looking at DATA’s expectations with grading to eventually develop clarity around that. Furthermore, DATA needs to look at its advance placement courses, because many times students are put in these classes solely based on the teacher’s recommendation; and that isn’t necessarily equitable.

Ms. Myhre said DATA’s math scores are not where they should be, so DATA needs to be very purposeful in tracking what matters, teach at grade/subject level, and communicate that with families and students. This year, DATA has implemented the new curriculum, Savvas. Next year, Ms. Rael and Ms. Perez will be working closely with math teachers to do a formative assessment in each course to measure growth and identify goals for each standard.

Ms. Myhre commented that all of these areas will help define the DATA experience, and DATA will be using these as the pillars for its charter renewal, which is due in October.

C. Financial Report

- **Updates from Last Meeting / Approvals Needed, if any**
- **Financial Summary**
- **Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs), Requests for Reimbursement (RFRs) & Disbursements.**

Mr. Gutierrez presented the April and May cash balance summaries, and then for May, the account summary report, bank reconciliation reports, revenue report, request for reimbursement and BAR (for ESSER grant) in the amount of \$358,544.01.

Chair McDonald moved to approve the BAR. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Martinez moved for approval of the Disbursements. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Mr. Vigil reported that the budget has been finalized and submitted for approval. He said Moss Adams will be doing the audit again this year. In addition to himself, Mr. Gutierrez and Ms. Myhre, the Audit Committee will require the participation of two Governing Council members, a member of the community who has a financial background (but doesn’t necessarily have a connection to DATA), and the parent of a current DATA student.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

None.

V. **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

None.

VI. **DISCUSS NEXT MEETING DATE**

A. **Discussion next meeting date**

Discussion on the next meeting date was deferred until July.

VII. **ADJOURNMENT: 12:20 p.m.**

These minutes were unanimously approved at the next meeting on 9/16/24.