

MINUTES OF THE
DIGITAL ARTS AND TECHNOLOGY ACADEMY GOVERNING COUNCIL

REGULAR MEETING

January 15, 2026

I. CALL TO ORDER

A regular meeting of the DATA Governing Board was called to order on this date at 4:00 p.m. at DATA, 1011 Lambertson Place, NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico.

A. Roll Call: quorum present

Board Members Present: [All members present]

Ms. Jennifer McDonald, Chair

Mr. Omar Durant

Ms. Tara Groneman

Ms. Janet Stephenson

Staff/Faculty Present:

Ms. Lisa Myhre, Director

Ms. Alixandra Rael, Principal

Ms. Kristin Reeder, Dean of Students

Ms. Kris Quisenberry, Human Resources Coordinator

Mr. Jesse Gutierrez, Business Officer

Others Present:

Mr. Mike Vigil II, The Vigil Group

B. Adoption of Agenda

Ms. Groneman moved approval of the agenda. Mr. Durant seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

➤ **Declaration of Conflicts**

None declared.

➤ **Materials Read Prior to Meeting**

Members confirmed that all materials were read prior to the meeting.

C. Approval of Minutes: November 20, 2025, Regular Meeting

Mr. Durant moved approval of the November 20, 2025, minutes. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

II. PUBLIC FORUM

No speakers.

III. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Administration Report: Alixandra Rael

➤ 90-Day Plan Update

Ms. Rael said work on the 90-day plan is in progress. At first glance, it looks like the 7th and 8th graders have improved in both reading and math. By the end of next week, they should be back on track with the 90-day check-in.

➤ Senior Graduation Initiatives

Following up in the attendance initiative conducted last semester, Ms. Rael commented that there was some confusion about the criteria and what the guidelines were. Next time, those will be clearer and hopefully not cause any additional confusion. Even though the list was really long for students who actually met the criteria, the chronic absentee percentage did not appear to change much. Ms. Reeder plans to do a comparison between the first and second quarters and will provide additional insight at the next board meeting.

➤ Testing Data

Ms. Rael commented that there appears to be some improvement, but she does not yet have detailed scores to review. The initiative done last year for attendance, which will be done again this year, is the Isotopes game in May. Last spring semester, DATA let students with a 90% attendance record attend the game. Students who didn't meet the 90% were disappointed they couldn't attend and said they would try again next year.

➤ Open House

Ms. Rael said the open house will take place on February 12 from 5:30 to 7:00 p.m.

B. Director Report: Lisa Myhre

➤ Revised Level 1 Salary Schedule

Ms. Quisenberry stated that the revisions ensure that returning Level I employees are given the minimum of \$55,000 plus the 4% raise.

Ms. Groneman moved to approve the revised Level 1 Salary Schedule. Mr. Durant seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

➤ **Cariina**

Ms. Myhre said that she, Ms. Rael, Ms. Quisenberry, Mr. Gutierrez, Ms. Reeder and Mr. McGuire had a training on Cariina last weekend, finishing up on Monday with staff. She said the board had asked her to set some personal goals in terms of leading the school, and one of them has to do with this management system. All that the business side of DATA needs will be housed in one place. It also ensures that important documents, forms and data are stored long-term and accessible, if employees leave the school. H.R. will also be incorporated into Cariina, so that new hires can electronically complete items required to start working.

Ms. Rael presented slides demonstrating how Cariina works for its users. She commented that she has seen a lot of systems come through in her 13-1/2 years with DATA, and this is the easiest one to work with that she has seen.

➤ **Charter School Fair**

Ms. Myhre said the charter school fair is scheduled for next Saturday at the Student Union in UNM. She commented that the venue is a challenge but hopes for a good turnout.

Ms. Myhre said DATA has also been invited to Christine Duncan's Heritage Academy and will go there on their high school night to do some recruiting.

➤ **Enrollment Update**

Ms. Myhre reported that enrollment is currently at 310.

➤ **FY24 CAP Update**

Ms. Myhre reported on yesterday's Finance Committee meeting.

C. Financial Report: Jesse Gutierrez / Mike Vigil II

➤ **Special Action Item: Cash Transfer**

Mr. Gutierrez stated that Fund 24330 is for a grant that DATA no longer has. Esser had calculated that money was left over for DATA to expend in December. DATA carried a negative balance to this grant and designated a fund to be expended out to a nurse, but it wasn't able to close it in time.

Mr. Gutierrez said the other fund is the old SB9 state match, which no longer exists. The predecessor was not able to submit a Request for Reimbursement on time which left a negative cash balance to the fund.

Ms. Groneman moved approval of the cash transfer. Ms. Stephenson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

➤ **Regular Financial Summary**

Mr. Gutierrez reviewed the November and December cash balance summaries, expenditure reports, revenue reports, deposits & withdrawals, outstanding checks, and general ledger reports. He also reviewed BARs and RFRs.

➤ **Budget Adjustment Requests (BARs), Requests for Reimbursement (RFRs) & Disbursements**

Mr. Durant moved to approve the BARs, RFRs and Disbursements for November. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

Ms. Groneman moved to approve the BARs, RFRs and Disbursements for December. Ms. McDonald seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

IV. NEW BUSINESS

A. Reminder to Complete Training Hours

V. NEXT MEETING DATE

A. February 19, 2026, 4:00 p.m. at DATA

VI. EXECUTIVE SESSION: 4:45 p.m.

- a. **To discuss the following, as permitted by the Open Meetings Act: limited personnel matters regarding a reported incident and parent email (§ 10-15-1(H)(2))**

Mr. Durant moved to enter executive session to discuss limited a personnel matter. Ms. Groneman seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by roll call vote.

Mr. Durant moved to come out of executive session at 5:10 p.m. The only matter discussed in executive session was a personnel matter. Ms. Stephenson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously by roll call vote.

VII. ADJOURNMENT: 5:10 p.m.

These minutes were approved unanimously at the next Board meeting on 2/19/26.