



## **Board of Directors Meeting Minutes**

Higher Institute of Arts and Technology (HIAT)

5861 Harrison Street Merrillville, IN 46410

Thursday, August 1, 2024 | 5:00 (CT)

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

The meeting was called to order by the Board Chair at 5:07 PM.

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

The Board of Directors recited the pledge of allegiance.

### **III. Roll Call**

#### **Board Member Attendance**

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

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

Motion: Charles Reese                      Support: George Tucker

The board unanimously voted to approve the board agenda.

#### **b. Approval of Board Minutes from June 12, 2024**

Motion: Charles Reese                      Support: George Tucker

The board unanimously voted to approve the board minutes.

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

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

Principal Johnson presented the principal and academic board report and provided updates on enrollment, new staff, campus celebrations, Summer Advantage, upcoming events, and building updates. Regional Director, Erin Simpson, presented the end-of-year assessment data and was excited to announce the major increase in ELA and Math!

##### **b. Enrollment Update**

Student Enrollment Coordinator, Biafran Stiff, provided an update on current enrollment numbers by grade, student retention strategies – boots to the ground, social media advertising, and HIAT Summer events.

##### **c. Financial Report**

PLA CFO, Eva Spilker presented a financial review of the May income statement, cash balances, accounts payable balances, days cash, and the enrollment budget.

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

- Fundraising and Development: Director Brown and Director Harris recently attended a grant writing workshop at Indiana University. Director Brown highlighted the advantages of attending and has arranged a meeting with the grant director. The committee's current goal is to receive funding for the HVAC system. Director Brown will report on her meeting with the grant director at the next board meeting.

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

President Johnson discussed the possibility of a building expansion with the addition of a high school in the future.

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

##### **a. Approval of Employee Handbook *\*Tabled***

Motion: Stephanie Davis                      Support: George Tucker

Yays: 5    Nays: 0

The board unanimously tabled the item pending revisions by Principal Johnson and Assistant Principal James.

##### **b. Approval of Payment System**

Motion: Stephanie Davis                      Support: April Brown

Yays: 5

Nays: 0

The board unanimously voted to approve the purchase of Clover payment system.

c. Approval of SY24-25 Suggested Calendar Changes

Motion: Charles Reese

Support: April Brown

Yays: 5

Nays: 0

The board unanimously voted to approve the amended 2024-2025 school year calendar.

**VIII. Parents**

- PTA President, Mrs. Burden, spoke on her excitement for the upcoming school year and encourages parents to get involved. The PTA will be donating 100 backpacks with school supplies to the first one-hundred scholars at the Back-to-School event. PTA Vice President Westbrook and President Burden attended a Texas Roadhouse Crown Point event on Tuesday to learn about fundraising opportunities.

**IX. Open Communication**

- The new Kindergarten teacher praised the staff morale under the new leadership and expressed optimism for the upcoming year.

**X. Meeting Adjourned**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting.

Motion: Stephanie Davis

Support: Charles Reese

The meeting was adjourned at 5:50 PM.