

Alliance *News Flash*

January 6, 2014

ALLIANCE for High Quality Education

Vol. XX, No. 8

Happy New Year!

Regional Meetings – *Be There!*

As you continue to fill your calendar for the beginning of this new year, don't forget the Alliance regional meetings scheduled for the last two weeks of January and the first week of February. See the schedule at the end of this News Flash and register now. Also, remember that treasurers and board members are welcome, and with H. B. 193 (changes in graduation requirements) still under consideration, a curriculum director or two might be helpful.

A priority on the regional meetings agenda will be an in-depth discussion of the "Quality Profile" template with the emphasis on "how to" suggestions for those who want to develop their own district profile. As school officials become better acquainted with the concept, first developed in Southwestern Ohio, interest among both Alliance member and non-member districts has grown rapidly; and, as districts face the prospect of diminished scores on the new state report card,

many more are expected to look favorably upon a method for reporting to their communities about those factors that the communities have said are important to them.

H. B. 193, which, in its present form, would make a number of changes in graduation requirements, has passed out of the House Education Committee with just one dissenting vote and is scheduled for a floor vote soon. The Committee accepted several amendments drafted by the education community and has crafted a responsible bill. Our message to Senators should include support for those changes and a request to keep them.

S. B. 229, which would ease some of the more burdensome aspects of OTES, is now in the House where it is expected to meet serious opposition. House spokespersons have expressed their concern about modifying OTES before the system has been implemented. We will need to

coordinate our message to Senators.

It has been suggested by a couple of members of the Kasich Administration that they would be willing to consider exempting high performing districts from some of the more routine and burdensome regulations established by statute and ODE. We would like your input regarding specifics.

Additional funding for early childhood education seems to be gaining support within both the Administration and the legislature. As that support grows, we need to be prepared with specific recommendations.

Ohio Attorney General Mike DeWine has offered the Alliance an opportunity to participate in a planned campaign to attack heroin addiction. Studies show this problem is gaining a serious foothold in suburban communities and Alliance school districts are in an ideal position to collaborate. We should discuss.

All of this adds up to a serious, comprehensive agenda and we need your input...

See you then.



Please call Barb at the Alliance office (614-842-2273) to register the number of attendees from your district who will be attending.

CENTRAL REGION – 8:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., **Wednesday, January 22nd** (*just prior to the Executive Committee meeting*) at the OSBA building, 8050 N. High St., Suite 150, Columbus

SOUTHERN REGION – 2:00 p.m., **Wednesday, January 29th** at the Sycamore Community Schools, 5959 Hagewa Dr., Cincinnati (**PLEASE NOTE THE NEW ADDRESS**)



CALENDAR

**Wednesday,
Jan. 8th**

**Legislative / System
Improvements
Committee**
*via phone conference
at 10:00 a.m.*

**Wednesday,
Jan. 22nd**

**CENTRAL
REGIONAL
MEETING**
8:00 a.m. in BASA's
Conference Room
followed by the
**Executive Committee
Meeting**
9:30 a.m.

TOLEDO AREA – 10:00 a.m.,
Thursday, January 30th at
Perrysburg Exempted Village
Schools, 140 East Indiana Ave.,
Perrysburg 43551

**NORTHERN AND CUYAHOGA
COUNTY REGIONS** – 1:00
p.m., **Friday, February 7th** at
the Cuyahoga County Educational
Service Center, 6393 Oak Tree
Blvd., Independence, OH 44131
(**PLEASE NOTE THE CHANGE OF
LOCATION**)