

**MINUTES OF THE MEETING
OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE
OF THE ALLIANCE FOR
HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION**

January 22, 2014

Chairperson Paul Imhoff called to order a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:30 a.m. on January 22, 2014 in the BASA conference room, 8050 N. High St., Route 23, Columbus, OH 43235.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Robert Scott	Avon Lake City Schools
Mike Sheppard	Berea City Schools
Scot Prebles	Brecksville-Broadview Heights City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Ed O'Reilly	Grandview Heights City Schools
Bob Lee	Kenston Local Schools
Jim Schoenlein	Kettering City Schools
Steve Kramer	Madeira City Schools
Gail Kist-Kline	Mason City Schools
Matt Miller	Mentor City Schools
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg EVSD Schools
Mick Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Adrienne James	Sycamore Community Schools
Paul Imhoff	Upper Arlington City Schools
Dan Keenan	Westlake City Schools

Also in attendance were Executive Director Tony Podojil, Alliance Consultant Jim Betts and Administrative Assistant Barbara Adams.

FISCAL REPORTS

A. Fiscal Reports for October, November and December, 2013.

Tony Podojil reported that the financial statements for the months of October, November and December remained in line with expected revenues and spending. We recently added three new members, with an additional district set to join next month. Those districts will be assessed half-year dues. With these new additions, we will meet our budget expectation of 60 full year paid members for the year. We currently have 63 paid members.

In terms of expenditures, we are within budget amounts except for the special projects line item (costs associated with the statewide survey) and Capital Conference luncheon expenditures, which we will reconcile once all district payments are received.

Mike Sheppard moved and Steve Kramer seconded a motion to approve the October, November and December fiscal reports. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns.

Tony and Jim provided the committee with updates on S. B. 229 (OTES) and H. B. 193 (Graduation Requirements) and the Board of Regents recommendations for College Credit Plus, the proposed new dual credit program. Several meetings have occurred with key stakeholders, including the House Education Committee, the State Budget Office and the Office of the State Superintendent. Paul, Tony and Jim provided a general review of what was discussed and the feedback from those who attended.

As recommended by the legislative committee, a series of talking points regarding S. B. 229 was sent to all members, both before and after the holiday break, along with a request that they speak with their legislators on this topic. S. B. 229 does not appear to have broad support in the House and faces an uphill battle to retain the changes approved by the Senate. The Alliance has been invited to provide input and rationale in support of the bill and will continue to meet with Colleen Grady on the House side.

In its deliberations on H. B. 193 (Graduation Requirements), the House adopted several amendments proposed by the Education Committee. The bill is now in the Senate. The College Credit Plus recommendations were a different story. Members have expressed concern about several issues if these recommendations are to be enacted, including the impact on current contracts some members have with their local colleges that are more favorable than what is proposed in the report. In addition, with the recommended deduction of the tuition amount occurring below the foundation fiscal line, districts will lose funds with each student enrolled, an obvious deterrent to promoting the program.

B. Membership Update.

Our current membership is 64 districts. Also, we are in contact with two districts (Green and Oregon) who were members last year, but have not yet rejoined. Since the first of the year, we have added Avon, Brunswick and Nordonia Hills. In addition, Wadsworth has indicated that they will be joining either this month or in February.

Several districts continue to express an interest in becoming members including Milford, Olmsted Falls, and Shaker Heights. Also, we continue to have discussions with former members Rossford and Marysville to gauge their interest in rejoining. Members should feel free to invite the superintendents from these districts, as well as Green and Oregon, to the winter regional meetings.

C. Capital Conference Update.

When we attempted to schedule next year's annual meeting for the same Monday luncheon time, we were informed by the Hilton that it was already booked. Based on that, we will need to find another facility or look at another date and time. The Executive Committee suggested we inquire into whether the morning breakfast slot is open on Tuesday, which it preferred over moving the meeting to Monday breakfast or Tuesday at noon. Further information will be shared at the February meeting.

Jim offered the name of a member of the Senate Education Committee as a possible candidate for our Homer Mincy Award for next year's annual meeting.

Scott Prebles moved and Tom Hosler seconded a motion to approve the candidate discussed to receive the Homer Mincy Award at next year's annual meeting. The motion passed.

D. Communications – Advisory Emails.

The Member Advisory and *News Flash* sent in December and January provided districts with information regarding S. B. 229 and our upcoming winter regional meetings.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

The summaries for the December and January meetings were distributed and shared with the committee. The next meeting of the legislative committee will be February 12th. Our last meeting was a phone conference, an idea that was well received by the members as an alternative to traveling to Columbus.

The two items discussed, a minimum funding level for the foundation formula and a method for designing a dual credit program as an incentive to encourage enrollment, resulted from feedback at the meetings with stakeholders.

In terms of the foundation payment, it appears we have made some progress in establishing the rationale for the need of a minimum. In the past, we have sought a minimum dollar amount at the same level as the administrative and auxiliary services payments to private and parochial schools. The committee discussed changing the request to a minimum stated as a percentage of the basic aid amount. The current minimum is 5%. If that was raised to 20%, it would exceed the dollar amount of the reimbursements to the non-publics.

In terms of the dual enrollment recommendations, unless additional funds are received below the line, no additional revenue will flow to districts. Weighting dual enrollment students greater than 1.0, (1.25) would provide more funding, but if that number is not below the line, capped districts and districts on guarantees would not realize any additional dollars. The program funding model in the recommendations is a disincentive for districts to participate.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Regional Meetings.

Tony Podojil reported that the 360Public group is working on a method for including community/charter school data into its system. Once that is done, we would be able to create reports for individual districts, as well as districts collectively, regarding community/charter school enrollment and academic performance.

B. Alliance PAC.

Paul reminded the members of the Executive Committee that contributions to the Alliance PAC must be an individual donation. He encouraged those who had not yet made a contribution to do so. The work of the Alliance PAC is critically important to the overall mission of the organization.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Alliance Summit – Drug Abuse Awareness (Heroin and Opiates).

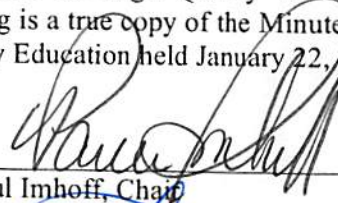
Paul Imhoff informed the committee that the Alliance has been asked to host a Summit in the spring to provide districts with information on the rise of heroin and opiate use around the state. The Summit will be for all Alliance member districts. More information will be forthcoming. The Governor's office, Attorney General's Office and the State Superintendent are all interested in assisting in the endeavor.

ADJOURNMENT

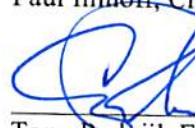
The meeting adjourned at 11:20 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, February 26, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the BASA Conference Room.

CERTIFICATE

We, Paul Imhoff, Vice-Chairperson of the Alliance for High Quality Education, and Tony Podojil, Executive Director, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education held January 22, 2014.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director