

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

October 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 October 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
Mike Johnson	Bexley City Schools
Scot Prebles	Brecksville Broadview Heights Schools
Tom Henderson	Centerville City Schools
Bob Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Steve Kramer	Madeira City Schools
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Kathi Powers	Twinsburg City Schools
Paul Imhoff	Upper Arlington City Schools
Brad Neavin	Vandalia-Butler City Schools

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

MINUTES

The minutes for the September meeting will be voted upon at the January meeting.

FISCAL REPORTS

Todd Hoadley moved and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for September, 2014. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns.

1. **H. B. 597 – Common Core Repeal** – Tony and Jim provided the committee with an update on the deliberations around H. B. 597. Jim shared an article from Hannah News Service that discussed Representative Stebelton's views on the Common Core debate and his belief that a strong majority in his caucus opposes the bill. This may be the reason that the discussion has now shifted to the amount of state testing currently being required and away from the issues involving standards and the Common Core.

2. **H. B. 627 – State Testing** – In conjunction with the discussion on the standards, Representative Brenner has introduced legislation that would limit the amount of time that could be used to test students. This would negatively impact PARCC, since the norms are based on a specific time frame. The committee also worried about how this bill would impact the current diagnostic testing they conduct locally. There is a concern that, if the amount of testing is curtailed, trading local diagnostic assessments for state exams would not be supported. The State’s current achievement assessments are not used to drive instruction, so districts use other assessment measures, in many cases those approved by the department and correlated to the state norms, to diagnose student needs and plan for instruction.

B. Meetings with Key Stakeholders.

1. **State Superintendent** – The committee spent some time discussing what constitutes a high performing school district. Tony walked the committee through a discussion that involved the use of components of the State Report Card as a basis for such a definition as being the best chance to gain legislative approval. This led to a lengthy debate on whether we should use the report card results to define high performing. While there is aversion to settling on this methodology, there does not appear to be a good alternative. The committee asked Tony and Jim to continue their work along with the accountability committee on this topic for presentation at our next meeting.

2. **ODE Staff** – Tony reminded the committee that ODE is interested in learning more about the second release of the “Quality Profile,” what types of information are reported to our communities and the resulting feedback. A follow-up meeting with ODE in November is planned.

3. **Senate Staff** – In a September meeting with Senate President Keith Faber, he expressed a desire to exempt high performing schools from unnecessary burdensome regulations, stating that, “We shouldn’t be telling you how to run your business.” In doing so, he suggested we look at those code sections from which charter schools are exempt as a starting point. Jim presented that list, along with some other concepts, such as flexibility in the assignment of licensed staff and flexibility in determining the length of both the school day and year. This discussion also raised the issue of what constitutes a high performing district.

C. Membership.

In terms of renewals, we are still waiting for Kirtland. We have heard positively from Avon Local, the Lake County ESC and Riverside Local about renewing. Milford recently sent a communication indicating that they would be joining this year. In addition, Green has expressed interest in returning this year. If Kirtland renews, we will have a total of 65 members.

D. Quality Profile – Regional Meeting Feedback.

The discussions during the regional meetings were informative and, in general, supportive of the release of the profile in September. The Quality Profile project will be highlighted at our Annual Meeting in November. Paul suggested that we put together a statewide cohort as we work to develop an improved template. Tony will work on that process.

E. Accountability Task Group – Meeting Summary.

Jim provided the committee with an update of the work of the Accountability Task Group that met this month. One of the areas that the committee has continued to debate is how best to define what constitutes a high quality district. The discussion centered on how to use the state reporting system to determine which districts would qualify.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

The summary of the topics covered during the committee’s meeting on October 8th was shared with the committee. The majority of the meeting was devoted to a discussion of what types of exemptions

districts would be interested in if they had an opportunity to receive some regulatory relief as discussed when we met with Senator Faber in September.

OLD BUSINESS

A. OSBA Conference / Alliance Annual Meeting – 11/11/14, 8:00 a.m.

As a reminder to all members, the Annual Meeting has been moved to 8:00 a.m. on Tuesday, Nov. 11th from our normal Monday noon lunch session. The Monday date for next year's conference has been secured, unless feedback is positive about the change to a Tuesday morning breakfast.

B. Bylaws Revisions – Approval.

Jim provided the Bylaw revisions that were discussed in the spring. As a reminder, these will need to be approved at our annual meeting in November. The changes reflect minor revisions that more closely align with how we are currently operating.

NEW BUSINESS

A. February Regional Meetings – Suggested Topics.

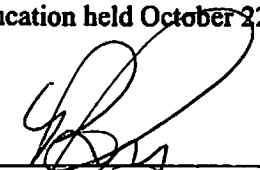
The regional meetings that will be held in early February will cover the release of the biennium budget, as well as a discussion on collective bargaining issues.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, January 28, 2015 at 9:30 a.m. at BASA.

CERTIFICATE

We, Paul Imhoff, 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 October 22, 2014.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director