

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE ALLIANCE FOR
HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION**

November 11, 2014

Chairman Paul Imhoff, Superintendent of Upper Arlington City Schools, called to order the Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:00 a.m. on Tuesday, November 11, 2014 in the Bellows Room of the Hilton Columbus Downtown Hotel, adjacent to the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Forty-seven member districts were represented and a quorum was reached.

MINUTES / FISCAL REPORTS

Joe Regano moved and Steve Kramer seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on November 11, 2013 as submitted. The motion carried.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Tony Podojil provided the membership with an overview of the past year that included the deliberations around the mid-biennium budget, the changes made to OTES, the creation of the College Credit Plus program and the first release of the "Quality Profile" statewide. He also presented an overview of the results of the Alliance's statewide surveys of Ohio residents conducted over the last three years and highlighted the research around the creation of the profile. Dr. Keith Kelly, superintendent of the Mayfield City Schools, provided members with an overview of how his district developed the profile, the contents of the profile and how it was being used and received by the community.

Tony went on to describe the Alliance's discussions with key legislators and coordination with the education management organizations as the mid-biennium budget went through the many stages of the legislative process. Overall, Alliance members benefitted from changes to OTES but we remain very concerned about the financial implications associated with the college credit plus program.

He also indicated that the statewide release of the "Quality Profile" in September, prior to the release of the 2014 state report card went well. Based on the information and feedback gathered during regional meetings held during October a second statewide release will be scheduled for next year. In addition, the Ohio Department of Education was interested in learning more about the profile and in particular, what districts were reporting beyond what is available on the state report card. Meetings have been held with ODE staff prior to the release and future follow-up meetings are planned.

Regarding the remainder of FY2015, Tony spoke of the expected release of 2016/2017 biennium budget bill in February. The Alliance is anticipating once again needing to make its case for maintaining tangible personal property reimbursements at their current levels, retaining guarantees, easing caps on funding growth and establishing a minimum per pupil funding level at the same level afforded to private/parochial schools.

Dr. Podojil thanked the members for their continued support and encouraged all to continue to maintain their strong ties with their state representatives and senators.

Membership is currently at 65 districts, which represents a high water mark for the organization. He reminded members that direct communications from districts play a vital role in establishing our positions in Columbus and contribute immeasurably to our overall success.

SPECIAL PANEL PRESENTATION

Jim Betts moderated a panel discussion on the current state of public education policy. The panel included Senator Peggy Lehner of Dayton, Chair of the Senate Education Committee, Superintendent Dr. Gail Kist-Kline of Mason City Schools and Superintendent Brian Poe of the Copley-Fairlawn City Schools.

Topics discussed by the panel included legislative initiatives to reject the Common Core standards – opposition to which Senator Lehner expressed in difficult to misinterpret terminology – public concern about excessive testing, what to expect in next year’s budget, the fate of the remaining TPP reimbursements for school districts, and issues that have arisen related to the implementation of the new Ohio Teacher Evaluation System.

At the conclusion of the panel discussion, Jim Betts thanked the participants for their insight and candor.

PRESENTATION OF THE HOMER F. MINCY EDUCATION LEADERSHIP AWARD

Upon the conclusion of the panel discussion, Paul Imhoff introduced Frank DePalma, who awarded Senator Peggy Lehner with *The Homer F. Mincy Education Leadership Award*.

OLD BUSINESS

Mike Johnson moved and Bob Scott seconded a motion that the Annual Financial Report be accepted and approved as submitted. The motion was adopted.

No other old business items came before the membership.

NEW BUSINESS

Adrienne James moved and Matt Miller seconded a motion that the proposed Revisions to the Bylaws be accepted and approved as submitted. The motion was adopted.

No other new business items came before the membership.

SUMMARY / REMARKS

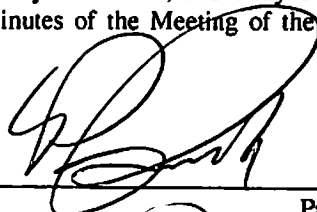
Alliance Chairperson Paul Imhoff closed the meeting by thanking those who attended, as well as the speakers on the panel.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting was adjourned at 10:15 a. m.

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 Members of the Alliance for High Quality Education held November 11, 2014.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director