

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

April 23, 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 April 23, 2014 in the BASA conference room, 8050 N. High St., Route 23, Columbus, OH 43235.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Bob Scott	Avon Lake City Schools
Mike Sheppard	Berea City Schools
Mike Johnson	Bexley City Schools
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn 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
Wade Lucas	Olentangy Local Schools
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg EVSD 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.

MINUTES

Wade Lucas moved and Joe Regano seconded a motion to approve the minutes from the February and March Executive Committee meetings. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

The Committee went into Executive Session to discuss personnel and budget issues related to the 2014-2015 operating budget.

FISCAL REPORTS

Wade Lucas moved and Joe Regano seconded a motion to approve the February and March fiscal reports. The motion passed. The first draft of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year was presented for discussion. After discussion, Steve Kramer moved and Joe Regano seconded a motion to approve the budget for 2014-15. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns.

Tony and Jim provided the Committee with updates on H. B. 487 (MBR – recently passed out of the House) and S. B. 229 (OTES) which is still being heard in the House Education Committee.

With H. B. 487 now out of the House and headed to the Senate, the Committee discussed several strategies for furthering Alliance talking points. It was determined that we should reach out to senators letting them know of our support of the House amendment that eliminates the floor for the College Credit Plus Program, thus allowing districts to maintain and negotiate contracts at whatever price the parties agree to.

With regard to other issues which were not addressed in the House, the addition of a means test for tuition costs for parents is still of higher priority than the ability to qualify AP/IB instructors as certified college instructors. While qualifying AP/IB instructors would greatly increase the pool of available inside teaching candidates for the College Credit Plus Program and allow for AP/IB and college credit plus to coexist without conflict, it does not have the budget ramifications that tuition and fee provisions do.

S. B. 229 (OTES) remains in the House and is scheduled for additional hearings in the House Education Committee. Senators have expressed their displeasure with the many changes already made by the House to the Senate version. There could be a move by the Senate to insert the Senate-passed version into H. B. 487.

H. B. 228 has been introduced in the House Education Committee and we are monitoring the process by which it will be heard. The fact that it has been sponsored by Rep. Brenner is problematic considering some of the issues he has with his own party.

B. Meetings With Key Stakeholders.

Once the Senators return from their spring break, speaking with key members of the Education Committee will be a priority. Tony and Jim have already spoken with Senator Lehner, sharing with her Alliance proposed amendments and talking points. Senator Gardner, Senator Hite and Senator Sawyer will be key players in the discussions surrounding H. B. 487.

C. Quality Profile.

Meetings have been scheduled in various regions throughout the state in an effort to educate both Alliance and non-Alliance members on the purpose and future plans for the profile. Meetings are scheduled for the Cleveland, Toledo and Youngstown areas in May.

D. Communications – Advisory Emails.

The Member Advisory and *News Flash* sent in April provided districts with information regarding the upcoming “Heroin Summit” to be held on April 29th in Worthington.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

The summary of the April meeting was distributed and shared with the Committee. The next meeting will be May 13th.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Drug Awareness Summit.

The Drug Awareness Summit is set for April 29th and will be held at the Worthington Kilbourne High School Auditorium. We are expecting approximately 150 participants, including the Governor and the Attorney General who will keynote the meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Executive Committee Vacancies.

There will be several vacancies on the Executive Committee to be filled for next year. At present, we need to find replacements for Bob Lee, Kenston, Ed O'Reilly, Grandview Heights and Dan Keenan, Westlake. In addition, Frank DePalma would like to step down from his position in the Dayton region due to scheduling conflicts with our monthly meeting dates.

B. Other.

The Committee then discussed two issues that have arisen in member districts: concern over the Common Core and the direction that the State may take after investing a great deal of time and effort in developing these standards; and allowing parents to opt their children out of testing programs and the possible impact in district passing rates if they do so.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, May 28, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. in the BASA Administrative Conference Room.

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 April 23, 2014.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director