

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

May 27, 2015

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 May 27, 2015 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
Bob Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Gail Kist-Kline	Mason City School District
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Adrienne James	Sycamore Community City Schools
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City Schools
Paul Imhoff	Upper Arlington City Schools

Also in attendance were Executive Director Tony Podojil, Alliance Consultant Jim Betts, Executive Assistant Barbara Adams and Kenji Matsudo Assistant Superintendent for the Madeira City Schools representing Steve Kramer.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Joe Regano moved and Bob Scott seconded a motion to move into executive session to discuss the 2015/16 budget. The motion passed. The committee moved into executive session at 9:30 a.m.

The committee returned from executive session at 10:15 a.m.

MINUTES

Scot Prebles moved and Kathi Powers seconded the approval of the April 22, 2015 meeting minutes. The motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Reports.

Tony Podojil provided a summary of financial activity for April and indicated that the budget continues to remain on target as we move through the last quarter of the fiscal year. He reviewed the current cash position, along with projected year-end totals.

Brian Poe moved and Michael Shoaf seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for March, 2015. The motion passed.

B. 2015/2016 Fiscal Operating Budget

Tony presented the committee with the recommended 2015/16 budget that was previously presented to members in March.

Mike Sheppard moved and Adrienne James seconded the approval of the 2015/16 budget. The motion passed.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns.

1. **HB64 Biennium Budget** – Jim Betts provided the committee with an over view of the work in the Senate regarding HB64. With the committee hearings coming to a close, we are anticipating that the Senate version of the budget bill will be released during the week of June 8th. TPP replacement, guarantees and establishing the minimum funding level at 20% of the foundation amount have all been discussed in committee. Several Senate members indicated they were concerned with the reductions included in the Governor's budget proposal and the degree of loss that would be experienced by many districts. Witnesses expressed the need to find a final solution for TPP, along with a way to ease the size of reductions.

Members were encouraged to maintain contact with their Senators, advocating the positions discussed above. Of particular interest will be whether the Senate adds to its TPP solution by aligning formula monies above the cap to offset as much TPP as possible. A position paper on this concept was distributed and reviewed.

2. **SB 3 – School Deregulation** – Tony Podojil informed the committee that the House Education Committee was set to hold hearings on SB3 the week of June 1st. The Alliance has been asked to provide testimony on the bill on June 2nd. Testimony similar to what was presented in the Senate will be provided.

3. **HB 74 State Testing Program** – Jim Betts and Joe Regano provided an update on the work of the Accountability Task Group and reviewed a list of guiding principles for a new state assessment system that the committee had developed.

Paul provided the committee with an update on the activities of the Senate Special Committee on Testing, as well as several meetings he has held with Senator Lehner. He also pointed out that the latest changes proposed by PARCC to decrease test time and fix scheduling issues do little to alleviate the problems associated with its testing program.

B. Meetings with Key Stakeholders.

1. **House Education Committee** – House Education Committee Chair Bill Hayes's Education Advisory Committee continues to meet on a regular basis with Rep. Bill Hayes (R-Harrison Township), the Chair of the House Education Committee with the following topics, among others, under consideration: College Credit Plus, teacher performance, licensure and contractual levels for teachers, and the state-testing program. The next meeting is scheduled for June 1st at 10:00 in Columbus.

2. **Representatives from BASA, OASBO, and OSBA** – Tony provided the committee with an overview of his discussions with the educational organizations regarding their recent communications to districts. In particular, the organizations' perceived lack of support for TPP reimbursements was discussed. While the organizations spoke to the issue in the House, the lack of clarification of their position in recent communications has led some to conclude that they do not have a position on the TPP issue and, therefore, are not actively seeking a solution in the Senate.

C. Membership.

Tony reported that both Medina and West Geauga have passed board resolutions to join the Alliance for the coming year. He indicated that he had made contact with both districts and they will be included in our communications to members immediately. If all current members rejoin for next year, the addition of those two districts will raise total membership to 67.

Tony also indicated that several districts continue to show an interest in either joining or rejoining the Alliance. Those include Chardon, Rossford, Bowling Green, Strongsville, Princeton, Kings Local and Green. Follow-up meetings over the summer will be scheduled to answer questions and meet with boards, if necessary.

D. Meeting with Tri-County Alliance

Tom Hosler provided the committee with an update on the meeting with the Tri-County Alliance of Southern Michigan attended by himself and Tony Podojil. The Tri-County Alliance is a group of approximately 80 districts, similar to the Alliance, who joined together to ensure that their viewpoints were being represented at the state level. It uses a lobbying group for assistance with representation and grassroots community organization. It raises revenue through vendor endorsements as well as dues.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Tony Podojil presented a written summary of the Legislative Committee meeting that was held on May 13th. The major focus of that meeting was to prepare testimony in front of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Education.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 10th.

ACCOUNTABILITY TASK GROUP

Joe Regano provided the committee with a review of the meeting held by the Accountability Task Group on May 20th. Several curriculum directors were also present to help draft a list of recommendations for revising the state's assessment policy. After that task was completed, it was suggested that the group seek a meeting with Senate Education Chair Peggy Lehner for a discussion about the recommendations.

The next meeting is scheduled for June 17th.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Executive Committee Replacements - Recommendations

Replacements for members of the executive committee are needed as follows: Cincinnati Region (1), Columbus Region (2). Members in those regions are encouraged to decide on a replacement this month and invite those individuals to our meeting in June. At that time the committee will take action on naming replacements.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Alliance PAC

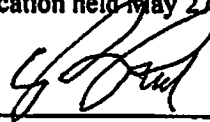
Tony Podojil informed the committee that it will be necessary to replenish the Alliance PAC account for next year. Paul spoke to the importance of the fund and the benefit it brings in terms of meeting with legislators.

ADJOURNMENT


The meeting adjourned at 11:45 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, June 24, 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 May 27, 2015.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director