

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

June 24, 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 June 24, 2015 in the BASA Conference Room, 8050 N. High St., Route 23, and 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
Steve Kramer	Madeira City School District
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Adrienne James	Sycamore Community City Schools
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City Schools
Paul Imhoff	Upper Arlington City Schools
Bradley Neavin	Vandalia-Butler City School District

Also in attendance were Executive Director Tony Podojil, Alliance Consultant Jim Betts, Executive Assistant Barbara Adams and guests Jeff Brown (Granville) and Chad Hilliker (Loveland).

**MINUTES**

Adrienne James moved and Mike Johnson seconded the approval of the meeting minutes for the May 27, 2015 meeting. The motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**A. Fiscal Reports**

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

Joe Regano moved and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for May 2015. The motion passed.

**B. Contract: Podojil Consulting and Professional Services**

Steve Kramer moved and Joe Regano seconded the approval of a contract with Podojil Consulting and Professional Services beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2018. The motion passed.

**C. Contract: Betts and Associates**

Steve Kramer moved and Joe Regano seconded the approval of a contract with Betts and Associates beginning July 1, 2015 and ending June 30, 2017. The motion passed.

**D. 2015/2016 Fiscal Operating Budget - Amended**

Tony presented the committee with an amended version of the 2015/16 budget that was adopted in May that included the changes reflected in the contract changes for Podojil Consulting and Betts and Associates.

Mike Sheppard moved and Tom Hosler seconded the approval of the amended version of the 2015/2016 Fiscal Operating Budget. The motion passed.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Current Legislative Concerns.**

1. **HB 64 Biennium Budget** – Jim and Tony provided the committee with an overview of the work in the Senate regarding HB 64 and the current deliberations occurring in the Conference Committee. One of the issues yet to be resolved is which version of the school foundation formula – House or Senate – should be adopted. Members of the Senate have reached out to the Alliance for our position on the issue and a draft letter that indicated a preference for several of the Senate's provisions was shared with the committee and discussed. The committee decided to add language explaining the Alliance position supporting a permanent solution for TPP reimbursements.

Tom Hosler moved and Joe Regano seconded the approval of the amended version of the letter to be sent to the House and Senate leadership and the members of the Conference Committee describing the Alliance position on the school funding formulas being considered. The motion passed.

2. **House vs. Senate: Foundation Formula – Guarantees, Minimum Funding Levels, and TPP**

3. **SB 3 – School Deregulation** – Tony Podojil informed the committee that the House Education Committee has not yet established a date to hold hearings on SB 3. As was indicated last month, the Alliance has been asked to provide testimony supporting the bill when it is scheduled for a hearing. Testimony similar to what was presented in the Senate will be offered at that time.

4. **HB 74 State Testing Program** – Jim Betts and Joe Regano updated the committee on the work of the Accountability Committee and the meeting held with Senator Lehner on June 3rd. It appears the testing issue is still a point of discussion in the Conference Committee deliberations. The committee reviewed the letter sent to Senator Lehner that detailed the Alliance position on what changes to the state assessment system we would support. The committee reviewed and discussed that document and requested that this information, along with a short explanation, be sent to the conference committee members at the close of the meeting for assistance in their discussions.

Scot Prebles moved and Steve Kramer seconded the approval of the letter to be sent to House and Senate leadership and to the members of the HB 64 Conference Committee regarding the Alliance position on the state assessments being considered. The motion passed.

**B. Meetings with Key Stakeholders**

1. **House Education Committee** – The Education Advisory Committee, put together by the Alliance, continues to meet on a regular basis with Rep. Bill Hayes (R-Harrison Township), the Chair of the House Education Committee. We have met numerous times and the topics under consideration include, in no particular order: College Credit Plus, teacher performance, licensure and contractual levels for teachers, and the state-testing program. The next meeting is scheduled for July 6th at 10:00 in Columbus.

2. **Senate Education Committee** – The meeting with Senator Lehner on June 3rd focused on the state assessment system and what changes could be made in the next year that would be of benefit to school districts.

C. **Membership.**

Tony reported that several districts continue to show an interest in either joining or rejoining the Alliance for the next school year. Those include Chardon, Rossford, Bowling Green, Strongsville, Princeton, Kings Local, Eastwood and Green. Follow-up meetings over the summer will be scheduled to answer questions and meet with Boards if necessary. The committee advised that future members be vetted appropriately to insure that they closely align academically with current members in order to insure cohesiveness going forward.

A meeting is scheduled for August 6th with the Strongsville Board of Education and one is to be held with the Eastwood board at a time and date not yet determined.

D. **Communications**

A member advisory and a *News Flash* regarding the budget were distributed to members.

### **LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

Tony Podojil presented an oral summary of the deliberations of the Legislative Committee at its June meeting. The meeting focused on two items: the Senate budget deliberations and planning for testimony in front of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Education.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 8th.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY TASK GROUP**

Joe Regano provided the committee with a review of the Accountability Task Group meeting that was held on June 3rd with Senator Lehner. The highlights of that meeting included a lengthy discussion of the testing discussions going on in both the House and Senate and a series of recommendations regarding changes to the system. The date of the next meeting is yet to be determined.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **Executive Committee Replacements - Recommendations**

Consideration for replacements for members of the executive committee, as recommended by their regional representatives, included the following: Cincinnati Region: Chad Hilliker (Loveland) and Central Region: Jeff Brown (Granville).

Mike Sheppard moved and Adrienne James seconded the approval of the addition of Chad Hilliker and Jeff Brown as members of the Executive Committee beginning July 1, 2015.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Fall Fallon Survey**

Tony Podojil informed the committee that he and Jim will be meeting with Bill Burges on June 26th to discuss survey questions for the fall version of the Fallon statewide survey. Possible topics include questions around the components of the profile, a means test for the college credit plus program and attitudes regarding state achievement testing and possible changes.

**B. Fall Programs – Grassroots Lobbying**

Tony indicated that he has been working with Jim on an agenda and activities aimed at new members that would assist them with grassroots lobbying efforts. It was suggested that one of the activities to schedule would be a visit with their respective senators and representatives for the purpose of introduction and/or advocating a specific issue.

**C. Fall Summit / Regional Meetings**

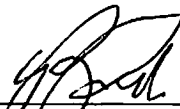
Ideas for a fall summit and/or regional meetings were discussed. Depending on what transpires over the next several months, the state assessment program would appear to be a good general topic to explore at a summit meeting. Mid-October appears to be a good time to offer this type of meeting.

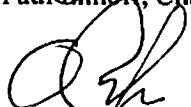
**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, July 22, 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 June 24, 2015.

  
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Paul Imhoff, Chair

  
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Tony Podojil, Executive Director