

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

July 23, 2014

Vice-Chair Tom Hosler called to order a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 11:30 a.m. on July 23, 2014 at Brio's Tuscan Grille, 1500 Polaris Parkway, Columbus, OH 43240.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Robert Scott (<i>via proxy</i>)	Avon Lake City Schools
Mike Sheppard (<i>via proxy</i>)	Berea City Schools
Tom Henderson	Centerville City Schools
Bob Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools
Steve Kramer	Madeira City Schools
Gail Kist-Kline (<i>via proxy</i>)	Mason City Schools
Wade Lucas	Olentangy Local Schools
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Adrienne James	Sycamore Community Schools
Kathi Powers	Twinsburg 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

Wade Lucas moved and Adrienne James seconded the approval of the minutes for May 28, 2014 and June 25, 2014. The motion passed.

FISCAL REPORTS

Steve Kramer moved and Adrienne James seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for May and June, 2014. The motion passed.

Joe Regano moved and Steve Kramer seconded the approval of the renewal contract with Betts and Associates, Inc. for the 2014-2015 fiscal year.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns.

Tony and Jim indicated to the Committee that an update on some of the provisions related to the College Credit Plus program was sent to members earlier in the month. Fortunately, the State's delay in the implementation of the rules until the 2015/16 school year has given districts the chance to review those rules locally and begin the process of negotiating contracts with the college providers located within a thirty mile radius if they choose to do so.

The second part of the discussion focused on the ongoing debate about the “common core.” While all present seemed to favor the establishment of a common set of high standards, frustration was expressed by members about the state testing program, regarding both the amount of testing demanded and the subsequent narrowing of the standards based on what is emphasized on those tests. The Committee was concerned that local control had been legislated out of the discussion because of the over-emphasis on test results when ranking schools and evaluating teachers.

B. Meetings With Key Stakeholders.

1. **State Superintendent** – Tony, Jim and Paul Imhoff had a recent meeting with State Superintendent Ross, who indicated that, as the Department prepares for the next budget process, he would be willing to consider language that would eliminate obstacles for schools that are performing at a high level. Based on that meeting, the legislative committee met on July 11th to develop some recommendations. Those proposals were shared with the Committee and reviewed. In general, the Committee felt the suggestions were appropriate and needed to be addressed. Tony and Jim indicated that they would be establishing a follow up meeting with Dr. Ross in August.

2. **ODE Staff** – Tony and Paul had a recent meeting with Marianne Motley and Matt Cohen at the Department of Education regarding our Quality Profile project. It appears that the Department has an interest in the “Quality Profile” as a way of expanding what districts report to their communities beyond the state report card results. ODE is interested in learning more about what our second release yields in terms of the types of information reported to our communities and the resulting feedback. Matt Cohen indicated that the Department is particularly interested in what districts are reporting as post high school outcomes.

3. **State Budget Director** – Jim indicated that a meeting has been scheduled with the State Budget Director on August 5th. We hope to talk to the director once again about the establishment of a minimum funding level for the next budget, and gain some insights into the continuation of guarantees and the TPP reimbursements.

C. Membership.

Renewals are coming in for the 2014/15 fiscal year. Members are encouraged to pay their dues as soon as possible.

D. Quality Profile.

With the anticipated move of the release of the report card by ODE to sometime in mid-September, the Committee agreed to move the release of this year’s Quality Profile to September 3rd. Tony is working on a media release to assist districts in developing their communication plans.

E. State Survey #3.

Tony and Jim indicated that they met with the staff of Burges and Burges to discuss the formation of the questions for our next statewide survey scheduled for the Labor Day weekend. The topics suggested focused on feedback on the standards issue and how best to communicate the information on the Quality Profile to the community. A set of questions, once developed, will be sent to members for review.

F. Communications – Advisory Emails.

The Member Advisory sent in July provided districts with information regarding the extended deadline for the Quality Profile.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

The summary of the topics to be shared with the State Superintendent that were developed during the July meeting was distributed and shared with the Committee. The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 9th at BASA.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Update – Income Tax Study.

Earlier, Tony had informed the Committee that he had spoken to Howard Fleeter who indicated that he would be unable to complete the analysis, but would send us the data files and help us create the analysis on our own. Those data files have been received and will be used to create our own spreadsheets. Tony distributed a sample matrix that showed the amount of state personal income taxes generated by a community, compared to the amount received from the State in the form of foundation support. Based on this, we will begin working with the data to develop some specific reports for Alliance members that then could be used locally and with their state legislators.

NEW BUSINESS

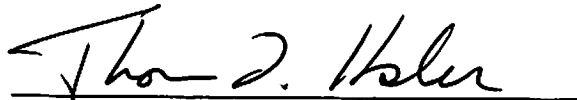
There was no new business.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 24, 2014 at 9:30 a.m. at BASA.

CERTIFICATE

We, Tom Hosler, Vice-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 July 23, 2014.



Tom Hosler, Vice-Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director