

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

July 22, 2015

Vice-Chairperson Tom Hosler called to order a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:35 a.m. on July 22, 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:

Bob Scott (<i>via proxy</i>)	Avon Lake City Schools
Scot Prebles	Brecksville Broadview Heights Schools
Bob Hunt	Chagrin Falls City Schools
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Thomas Henderson	Centerville City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Steve Kramer	Madeira City Schools
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg City Schools
Mick Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City Schools
Paul Imhoff (<i>via proxy</i>)	Upper Arlington City Schools

Also in attendance were Executive Director Tony Podojil, Alliance Consultant Jim Betts and Executive Assistant Barbara Adams.

MINUTES

Kathi Powers moved and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the meeting minutes for the June 24, 2015 meeting. The motion passed.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Reports

Tony Podojil provided a summary of financial activity for June, reviewed the closing of the fiscal year and indicated that the budget ended the year as anticipated. He reviewed our current cash position along with a review of next year's budget that was passed as amended at our meeting in June.

Steve Kramer moved and Brian Poe seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for June 2015. 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 final provisions of the budget including the impact of the Governor's veto of the minimum per pupil funding level and the hold harmless provisions for TPP reimbursements in the second year of the budget. It is extremely disappointing considering the time and effort put forth to move both of these provisions

through the House and the Senate. They indicated that they are already working on strategies to get these vetoes reversed.

Of particular concern is the elimination of the TPP hold harmless language in year two of the budget. The elimination of the hold harmless in FY2017 causes districts to lose both year one and year two of the Administration's reduction in TPP payments, all in one year, the second year of the budget. This will create extreme hardships in those districts heavily dependent on TPP as a revenue source. In light of that, we need to begin immediately attempting to put a strategy together that addresses this issue in the fall when the legislators return.

Jim and Tony informed the committee they have met with representatives of CFFO and have discussed several strategies for addressing the TPP issue. A meeting with the three education organizations scheduled for that afternoon was to help ascertain their position on this topic and hopefully find a common solution that everyone can support. The concept incorporated in both the House and Senate budget versions, offsetting TPP losses with formula growth, appears to be the most logical strategy to pursue. The goal going forward is to establish a preferred legislative pathway and then define the role of each group in gaining support for the measure and eventually bringing it to the House and Senate floors for a vote.

Over the summer, districts will be encouraged to meet with their representatives to share with them the impact of the TPP losses and a strategy to overcome the veto resolutions to be pursued in the fall.

As for the minimum funding level, the governor's veto did come as a surprise. We have been encouraged to bring forth this measure again in the future.

2. **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. A meeting with Representative Hayes and his advisory committee is scheduled for August 3. We hope to learn more about Chairman Hayes's plans for the bill at that time.

3. **HB 74 State Testing Program** – Jim Betts and Joe Regano updated the committee on the work of the Accountability Committee and the letter sent to Senator Lehner regarding the committee's recommendations during the Conference Committee deliberations. A document that compared what was agreed to in the budget bill and what we had recommended was shared. While there are still many questions to be answered, both short term and long term, we were encouraged that the budget incorporated some of what we had proposed.

Several members of the executive committee expressed concern about what may occur about testing going forward and what the position of the Alliance should be. It was agreed that, whatever changes are made this year, we should advocate that the state return to developing testing protocols are designed to meet the minimum federal standards, while we move to sort out a final decision on testing.

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. The next meeting is scheduled for August 3 at 9:30 AM in Columbus.

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 during the summer will be scheduled to answer questions and meet with those Boards, if necessary. The committee advised that future members be vetted in accordance with appropriate academic performance to insure that they closely align with current members in order to insure cohesiveness among the group going forward.

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

D. Communications

Several advisories and a *News Flash* regarding the budget were distributed to members over the last several months.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

Tony Podojil provided the committee a summary of the deliberations of the Legislative Committee meeting that was held on June 10th. The major focus of that meeting was the Senate deliberations at a meeting on its version of the budget bill as well as planning for testimony in front of the Senate Finance Subcommittee on Education.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for September 9th.

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 on the testing deliberations taking place in both the House and Senate and the recommendations made on behalf of the committee regarding changes to the system. The next meeting is set for August 19th.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Executive Committee Replacements - Recommendations

All open positions on the Executive Committee, with the exception of one in the Central Region, have been filled.

B. New Member Orientation – 9/9/15

Tony provided the committee with several ideas regarding orientation activities for new superintendents. For this year, we will be holding an orientation session prior to our legislative committee meeting on September 9th. This will allow those new members to stay for that meeting so they can see firsthand how that group operates and hopefully encourage them to become participants in the future. In the afternoon, we plan to take members to the Statehouse for a tour and possible visits with their legislators.

NEW BUSINESS

A. Quality Profile Release

The Quality Profile release is scheduled for the first full week of September following Labor Day. Information about the release will be sent to members soon.

B. Fall Fallon Survey

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

C. Capital Conference Speaker Program

Tony indicated Representatives Hayes and Cupp have agreed to speak at our meeting in November. Hayes is the chair of the House Education Committee and Representative Cupp is chair of the House Education Finance Subcommittee.

D. Fall Regional Meetings

Tony announced that regional meetings will be held in late September or early October.

ADJOURNMENT

Tom Hosler adjourned the meeting at 11:10 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 23, 2015 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 22, 2015.



Tom Hosler, Vice-Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director