

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

July 26, 2017

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 July 26, 2017, in the BASA Conference Room located at 8050 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Clint Keener	Bay Village City Schools
Michael Sheppard	Berea City Schools
Robert Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village Schools
Brian Poe	Copley/Fairlawn City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills Local School
Chad Hilliker	Hamilton County ESC (Proxy)
Steve Estep	Mariemont City Schools
Kathi Powers	Twinsburg City Schools

Also, in attendance were Alliance Executive Director Anthony Podojil, Legislative Consultant Michael Dovilla and Executive Assistant Patricia Cali.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was held.

**MINUTES**

The minutes for the June 21, 2017, meeting were distributed to members during the meeting for their review.

Brian Poe moved and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the minutes for June 21, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**A. Fiscal Reports.**

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for June. This marks the end of the fiscal year and as expected, we exceeded our budget spending projections by approximately \$6,000.00. Most of that overage came from the special programs associated with our anniversary celebration that was part of the 2016 Capital Conference Annual Meeting. Overall, the ending cash balance is on target to meet our six-month cash balance requirement and as well as our two-month reserve for meeting future special project goals.

Brian Poe moved and Bob Scott seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for the month of June 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. Contract with Rachel-Wixey for Administrative Services.**

Tony provided the committee with an update on the process we will follow in terms of the costs associated with the administrative assistant's position for the first six months of employment. We will cover the costs associated with our agreement with Rachel-Wixey and then bill back OESCA for their share of the costs. Tony asked for a motion for approval to enter into the agreement officially with Rachel-Wixey beginning on July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017.

Todd Hoadley moved and Mike Sheppard seconded the approval to grant the Executive Director the authority to enter into a contractual agreement with Rachel-Wixey for administrative services from July 1, 2017 through December 31, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### A. Current Legislative Concerns.

1. **Biennium Budget** - Mike Dovilla and Tony Podojil provided the committee with a recap of the final budget deliberation process following the governor's vetoes. The funding shortfall of close to \$1 billion and the concerns about rising Medicaid costs had a tremendous impact on the final decisions made in terms of the budget.

The loss of TPP funding and our inability to convince members in both chambers to include the fair funding concept can be tied directly to the lack of funds available to make any budget corrections that would have included additional funds. In addition, the governor's veto of the TPP changes made by the Senate was a devastating blow to those members who were heavily reliant on TPP funding. While the governor spared the changes made to the state testing program (Elimination of Social Studies in Grades 4 and 6) he also struck down the widely-supported provisions that would have eliminated RESA.

The committee discussed several ideas for strategies going forward in regard to how to address the TPP run-out provision, what avenue, if any, may exist between budget cycles to get our fair funding concept included as a stand-alone bill, and how to engage the General Assembly and the education community in a meaningful dialogue regarding school funding.

With the disbanding of the CFFO, the committee explored the possibility of reaching out to the non-Alliance members of that group to determine what level of interest they may have in working with our members going forward. The inclusion of several of those districts would help round out the types of districts and level of impact the current run-out provisions are having. While this group would be similar to the way we handled the fair funding lobbying, the committee agreed that we did not want to create a separate funding group for the purposes of lobbying. Ideas such as an associate member or temporary affiliate were discussed. Tony will reach out to Solon to see what possibilities may exist and what they believe would be the best path to pursue.

With failure to get the fair funding amendment included in the budget and the fact that in all likelihood, the governor would have vetoed the provision had it been incorporated, the group explored what our next steps should be in terms of pursuing this in the future. Mike and Tony suggested that we circle back to those members in the House and Senate who were instrumental in supporting this idea and determine what level of support still remains and if this is something we could pursue as either a stand-alone bill or a provision of the MBR. The committee agreed that this would be the best manner in which to ascertain what level of energy we should continue to expend in this area.

In the Senate, Senators Kunze and Dolan were identified as individuals to contact, and in the House, Representatives Hughes and Dever. Paul Imhoff will reach out to Kunze and Hughes to set up meetings and Tony will contact Solon to arrange a meeting with Dolan and Sycamore to arrange a meeting with Dever.

Overall, the budget did preserve some level of gains for those members who were on a cap and the revised enrollment averaging change from 5 to 3 years will help those districts on guarantees. While

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this budget was lacking because of a loss in revenue, as we were told in our meeting with Rep. Brenner during his House Education Advisory Committee meeting, the rise in costs associated with Medicaid are rapidly coming close to consuming 60 percent of the overall budget. As those costs continue to grow, they will subsequently result in further cuts to the education budget due strictly to the lack of funds available.

**B. ODE/State Board of Education.**

1. **Strategic Planning Committee** – Tony updated the committee on the current progress related to ODE’s strategic planning process. From the work done to date, it appears yearlong learning and end outcomes have risen to the top as priorities as well as literacy. The next step in their process is in the development of work groups around the priority areas who will then begin to study those areas in more depth. That information will then be forwarded on to the oversight committee for further discussion. That is the committee Tony is serving on.

2. **Graduation Requirements** – With the inclusion of the alternative pathways in the budget, a major hurdle was cleared for the class of 2018. While we had heard repeatedly during the legislative process that this was only going to apply to the class of 2018, there does appear to be interest at both the State Board and the General Assembly of considering this pathway for future graduating classes. We will be discussing this in Rep. Brenner’s Advisory Committee meeting in September.

3. **ESSA** – The ESSA application was submitted in July. Members of the committee have been trying to locate a summary document from ODE and have not been successful. Tony indicated he would contact the department to see if that document is available and if not, when it would be.

4. **Meeting with Aaron Rausch – ODE Office of School Finance** – Tony indicated that he would be meeting with Aaron Rausch on July 31 to debrief on the budget and seek some advice on what the department may be thinking about in terms of changes to the school foundation formula in the future.

**C. Meetings with Key Stakeholders.**

1. **Meeting with House Education Committee Chair** - The Education Advisory Committee met with House Education Chairman Brenner on Monday, July 10, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at BASA. A summary of the meeting was distributed to the committee and highlights were reviewed. Of interest were the discussions surrounding the future of school funding, support for expanding the graduation pathways beyond 2018 and the willingness to revisit how value added is calculated and used as an accountability tool. In addition, he asked the committee to provide interested party testimony for House Bills 176 and 181 when the legislators return for further hearings in the fall. The next meeting is scheduled for September 11, 2017 at 10:00 a.m.

**D. Membership.**

1. **Executive Committee Openings** – The committee recommended Rob O’Leary, Vandalia-Butler and Steve Estep, Mariemont to fill the vacancies in the Cincinnati region. Brian Poe moved and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of Rob O’Leary and Steve Estep for membership on the Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

2. **Membership – 2017/2018** – Tony indicated that the following districts have indicated their interest in becoming members beginning in the 2017/2018 school year: Woodridge, Summit County ESC and the Hamilton County ESC. Joinder materials have been sent to each of the districts along with an invoice for the 2017/2018 school year.

E. **New Superintendent Orientation Program.** Tony indicated he is working with Mike Dovilla on our new superintendent orientation program for superintendents new to the Alliance. A tentative date of September 19, 2017, is scheduled. Based on current roster movement and new members, it appears we should have 5-10 superintendents eligible for the program.

**LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

The next meeting is scheduled for September 13, 2017.

### ESSA/ACCOUNTABILITY TASK GROUP

The next meeting is scheduled for September 20, 2017

#### OLD BUSINESS

A. **School Funding White Paper** – Mike Dovilla updated the committee on the status of the school funding “white paper”. He indicated, as we work to refine the document, we should build a strategy around how best to use the document with the general assembly and the Department of Education.

Mike Sheppard suggested that we conduct an analysis of the final funding spreadsheet to determine which districts are impacted by the areas identified in the last budget, TPP, Guarantees, Caps, and Minimum Funding. That information along with the white paper could be shared with members during our Regional Meeting in October.

Tony indicated, he would begin to work on the fiscal analysis for review during our September meeting.

#### NEW BUSINESS

A. **Fallon Survey Questions** – Tony distributed a draft document that contained several questions for possible inclusion in the fall Fallon survey. Paul asked that this document be sent to all members of the Executive Committee for their feedback.

B. **Quality Profile Release Date** – This year’s release date for the Quality Profile project will be the week of September 11. Information will be sent to those indicating they will be releasing a profile in early August announcing the date and providing a media release for their use. Scot Prebles suggested we include some guidance in that document that would help districts in their messaging related to what occurred during this last budget cycle.

C. **Regional Meeting Dates** – Regional meetings are being planned for early October for membership. Dates will be released in late August.

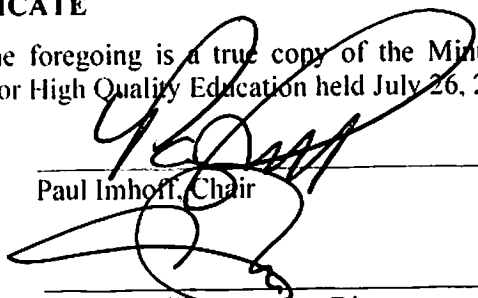
D. **Capital Conference** – Mike Dovilla announced he is working on securing a legislative panel for our Capital Conference program. He believes we have several good candidates to choose from which should allow for a very comprehensive conversation that day.

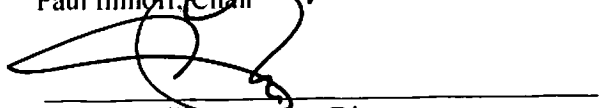
#### ADJOURNMENT

Paul Imhoff adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 27, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at BASA.

#### CERTIFICATE

I, Paul Imhoff, Chair, 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 26, 2017.

  
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Paul Imhoff, Chair

  
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Tony Podojil, Executive Director