

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

September 27, 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 Wednesday, September 27, 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
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills Local Schools
Robert Scott	Avon Lake City Schools
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills Local School
Chad Hilliker	Hamilton County ESC
Steve Estep	Mariemont City Schools
Nancy Santilli	Kenston City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools (Proxy)
John Marschhausen	Hilliard City Schools
Trent Bowers	Worthington City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools (Proxy)
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village Schools
Gail Kist-Kline	Mason City Schools
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City Schools
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Village School District

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

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Joe Regano moved and Jeff Brown seconded the committee move in to executive session to discuss a contractual issue. The motion passed unanimously.

Upon returning from executive session at 9:45, Bob Scott moved and Steve Estep seconded that the committee reconvene the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

**MINUTES**

The minutes for the July 26, 2017, meeting were distributed to members prior to the meeting for their review.

Steve Estep moved and John Marschhausen seconded the approval of the minutes for July 26, 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

### A. Fiscal Reports.

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for July and August. He noted that there was an unanticipated cost associated with payments due to Betts and Associates. Apparently, the Alliance was a month in arrears in paying monthly costs associated with Mr. Betts' work. The final payment for fees came due in July rather than in June. This requires an adjustment to the 17/18 budget to accommodate these additional costs.

Joe Regano moved and Tom Hosler seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for the months of July and August 2017. The motion passed unanimously.

### B. Amended Budget Request.

Based on the information presented during the fiscal report review, Chad Hillicker moved and Trent Bowers seconded the approval of moving an additional revenue of \$15,000 from the reserve fund to the 17/18 budget and establishing a corresponding \$15,000 expense line under Betts and Associates to cover run-out costs for services rendered by that organization during the 16/17 budget year.

The motion passed unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### A. Current Legislative Concerns.

1. **Biennium Budget** - Mike Dovilla and Tony Podojil provided the committee with an update on several conversations they have had with members of the General Assembly regarding next steps following the passage of the biennium budget. During a meeting with members in the Cincinnati region and Rep. Dever, the representative expressed his willingness to take on some of the issues not addressed in the budget related to fair funding levels and TPP. His plan was to submit a budget request that would highlight the inadequacies in the present formula with the hope that would lead to some support for other Alliance initiatives. Tony and Mike have been working with Rep. Dever on that strategy over the last month.

While that has been occurring, they indicated that they had a conversation with Senator Dolan in which he shared that he was working with Senator Gardner in an effort to add the provisions concerning TPP that were vetoed in the budget bill to S.B. 8 with the hope those would pass this fall. At present, the additional funding that was in the budget bill, approximately \$8 million, was being favorably received. The millage reduction amount from 5/8 to 1/4 still needed to be worked on in terms of securing support.

An additional concern surrounding TPP is the issues associated with the values of nuclear power plants. While the impact in terms of the number of districts involved is small, for those impacted the issue is great. The committee agreed this is an area that merits additional monitoring.

Tony distributed a final fiscal analysis for members regarding the budget that pointed out how each school district had been impacted. Similar to the state as a whole, the Alliance has members impacted in all categories: fair funding levels, guarantees, caps, and TPP losses. This makes it difficult to lean on any one of these areas for a budget adjustment without impacting those in the other areas. The Alliance will need to handle any solution with great care to ensure progress on all of these issues.

The committee recommended that once a definitive plan is developed in the Senate and/or the House, Alliance staff reach out to the members impacted in order to inform them of the developments and to discuss strategy in terms of gaining support in the General Assembly and the governor's office.

Tony indicated this would be a discussion item at regional meetings over the next two weeks.

## 2. **RESA, Gifted Operating Standards, H.B. 410, Value-Added and State Report Card**

Tony provided the committee with an update on several topics being discussed at the state level, including the changes made to years 3 and 4 in RESA, the professional development requirements associated with the new Gifted Operating Standards, the continued controversies over value-added and district grades on the state report card, and the problems and issues associated with implementing the attendance and new truancy rules mandated by 131-H.B. 410.

### 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. The next meeting is scheduled for 10/2. The committee has been in an extended discussion around the high school diploma and the appropriate requirements students should meet going forward.

2. **Graduation Requirements** – Staff fully anticipates that both the State Board of Education and the General Assembly will begin to weigh in on what, if any, changes should be considered in terms of graduation requirements for the Class of 2019 and beyond. More updates to follow on this topic in the near future.

3. **ESSA** – The Ohio Department of Education (ODE) submitted its ESSA application in July and the department is awaiting a response from the U.S. Department of Education. Since this application was submitted by ODE, it is not considered the State’s official application, thus allowing the General Assembly to weigh in once they have the document in hand. Staff anticipates that both the House and Senate will hold hearings and consider changes where appropriate. Once the application has been approved, the Alliance will begin discussing strategy with its accountability committee.

4. **Meeting with Jessica Voltolini – Governor’s Office** – Tony indicated that he has been meeting with Jessica Voltolini who is the liaison to the Governor’s office for K-12 education. This has provided the organization with a valued resource and sounding board. He indicated that where the Alliance can offer appropriate assistance, members and staff should work to maintain this important relationship.

### C. **Meetings with Key Stakeholders.**

1. **Meeting with House Education Committee Chair** - The Education Advisory Committee met with House Education Chairman Brenner on Monday, September 13, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at the Riffe Center. Mike Dovilla distributed and reviewed a summary of the meeting highlighting many of the items discussed earlier. The next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2017, at 10:00 a.m. at the board office of the Olentangy Local School District.

### D. **Membership.**

1. **Membership – 2017/2018** – Tony indicated that the Alliance is waiting for a handful of districts to send in their renewal memberships for this year. It appears the Franklin County ESC will not be joining this year because of fiscal issues at the center. Committee members agreed to follow-up with Gahanna-Jefferson, Independence, and Loveland to ascertain their membership status for this year.

With the Franklin County ESC’s exit and if the Alliance receives the remainder of its anticipated dues, the organization’s membership would stand at 73.

E. **New Superintendent Orientation Program.** Mike Dovilla and Tony Podojil hosted the annual new superintendent orientation program on September 19, 2017. Member superintendents from Mentor,

Cuyahoga Heights, Bexley and Vandalia-Butler were in attendance. Rob O’Leary shared his experience with the group and indicated the event was an important component of getting to know the purpose of the Alliance as well as how utilize the resources of the organization to his district’s benefit.

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

Mike Dovilla distributed a summary recapping a meeting of the legislative committee via conference call on September 13, 2017. During that call, the committee discussed several issues related to the biennium budget including the current status of districts on the guarantee, those that are capped, and the current status of a legislative remedy associated with the fair funding proposal. In addition, the committee discussed the Alliance’s outreach to non-members impacted by TPP reductions in an effort to determine the viability of building a coalition strong enough to change the course of the current run-out timetable.

In addition to the funding issues, the committee discussed the current status of several topics including ESSA, Graduation Requirements for the Class of 2019 and beyond, the new Gifted Operating Standards and the changes made to RESA.

The committee’s next meeting is scheduled for October 11, 2017.

### **ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

The next committee meeting is scheduled for October 18, 2017, and will focus on updates associated with some of the items discussed in the legislative committee including ESSA, High School Graduation Requirement, the new gifted operating standards and changes made to RESA and future considerations.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

A. **School Funding/Fiscal Analysis** – Tony distributed a spread sheet earlier in the meeting that demonstrated the diversity among Alliance member districts in terms of how the funding formula impacts funding levels associated with guarantees and capped districts.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

A. **Fallon Survey** – Tony distributed a copy of the results of the recently administered Fallon survey. The results reflect and validate many of the positions the Alliance has been promoting, including the importance of the quality profile, the support for multiple measures in determining graduation requirements beyond test scores with an emphasis on paths that lead to college and career readiness, and the support for a value-added measure that focuses on individual progress versus progress made against a group of students.

B. **Quality Profile Release** – This year’s release of the Quality Profile project took place during the week of September 11. Approximately 85 districts participated in this year’s release. Tony indicated he has already begun to receive calls from districts seeking information on how to develop their profile.

C. **Regional Meeting** – Regional meetings will be held over the next two weeks. Agendas have been distributed and districts are beginning to sign up for the meetings in their areas.

D. **Capital Conference** – Mike Dovilla announced he has secured Senators Dolan and Kunze and Representative Patterson for the legislative panel at the Alliance’s annual meeting and luncheon. At present, the organization has 313 individuals signed up for the annual meeting.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Paul Imhoff adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, October 25, 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 September 27, 2017.



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Paul Imhoff, Chair



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Tony Podojil, Executive Director