

**Alliance for High Quality Education  
Education Advisory Committee**

A meeting of the Education Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, February 14, 2018, at the Vern Riffe Center for Government and the Arts located at 77 S. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43215. The meeting convened at 9:00 a.m.

The following individuals were in attendance:

- Allison Lawlor, Legislative Aide to Rep. Brenner
- Rick Edwards, Athens-Meigs Educational Service Center
- Jack Fette, Olentangy Local School District
- Chad Hillicker, Hamilton County Educational Service Center
- Dave Toth, Crestwood Local School District
- Anthony Podojil, Executive Director, AHQE
- Mike Dovilla, Legislative Consultant, AHQE

Chairman Brenner was at a news conference announcing a major education reform bill that ran concurrently with this morning's meeting. Legislative Aide Allison Lawlor provided an update on recent legislative activity. The House Education and Career Readiness Committee met yesterday and heard the following bills: (1) H.B. 477 (Koehler), cleaning up provisions of the Ohio Revised Code; (2) H.B. 438 (Hambley/Kick), regarding Education Service Centers; and (3) H.B. 442 (Antani), pertaining to F1 student visas and participation in athletics.

The Advisory Committee entered a period of old business, beginning with a discussion of S.B. 216 (Huffman), the deregulation legislation pending in the Senate. Tony Podojil provided an update on two major changes to the bill: (1) KRA changes have been removed and ODE will conduct a study; and (2) gifted changes have been made as follows: (a) the 60 hour requirement remains but can be completed four years (vice two years); (b) for a teacher who is an AP or IB instructor, the training is reduced to 30 hours; and (c) once a teacher has started the training, he or she must maintain progress in order to complete the training by the end of the four year period.

Turning to H.B. 360 (Greenspan), the anti-bullying/hazing bill being considered by the House Education and Career Readiness Committee, Chairman Brenner, Rep. Greenspan, Policy Advisor Dirksen, and Reps. Brenner and Greenspan's LAs met yesterday and made several changes. The bill is now on the -5 version and will be circulated tomorrow to interested parties, including representatives of the education and judicial communities. The next IP meeting will probably be two weeks from now on a Tuesday or Thursday. Tony Podojil commented that the victim advocate part of the bill remains a concern for school districts in terms of implementation.

The Advisory Committee then engaged in a discussion about ongoing implementation of 131-H.B. 410, which continues to present challenges for districts.

The Committee moved into a period of discussion on a number of policy issues, starting with an update on the Every Student Succeeds Act (ESSA). The federal government has accepted Ohio's ESSA application and the issue is on the State Board of Education's upcoming agenda.

With respect to the State Report Card, Chairman Brenner is developing a legislative proposal, and Rep. Duffey has introduced his own bill. The Brenner draft has elements reflecting what he has heard from stakeholders, including the Fordham Institute. Value added, performance index, and gifted/talented changes are among those being contemplated. Allison Lawlor asked Committee members for their thoughts on an overall district grade. Members shared concerns about the lack of meaning behind letter grades and the potential impacts on property values, the negative perceptions of potential employers considering moving their businesses to Ohio, and related issues.

Chairman Brenner is drafting a bill regarding high school graduation requirements, but such legislation cannot be referred to his committee under an informal House rule. Allison will share the draft with Advisory Committee members for review. We will add this to the agenda for the next meeting.

With respect to proposed rule changes for gifted operating standards, the process is underway at the State Board of Education and is anticipated for completion in April. The Advisory Committee also discussed changes to preschool operating standards.

Under new business, Allison Lawlor provided basic information on the bill that was dropped this morning by Rep. Reineke, a 2,400-page measure related to a major reorganization of Ohio government's cabinet-level education structure. The Advisory Committee will plan to discuss this bill at its next meeting after members have had an opportunity to review its provisions.

The next meeting of the Advisory Committee is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 12, 2018, at 10:00 a.m. at the AHQE offices.

Whereupon, at 10:04 a.m., the meeting adjourned.