

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

February 24, 2016

In the absence of Chairperson Paul Imhoff and Vice-Chair Tom Hosler, Executive Director Tony Podojil called to order a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:42 a.m. on February 24, 2016 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
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Tom Henderson	Centerville City Schools
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Villlage Schools
Chad Hilliker	Loveland City Schools
Steve Kramer	Madeira City Schools
Gail Kist-Kline	Mason City Schools
Micheal Shoaf	Rocky River City Schools
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Kathi Powers	Twinsburg City Schools
Brad Neavin	Vandalia-Butler City Schools

Also, in attendance were Alliance Consultant Jim Betts, Executive Assistant Barbara Adams and invited guest Scot Prebles.

**MINUTES**

The minutes for the January 27, 2016 meeting were electronically sent to members prior to the meeting for their review. Kramer moved and Gail Kist-Kline seconded the approval of the minutes for January 27, 2016. The motion passed.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**A. Fiscal Reports.**

Tony Podojil provided a summary of financial activity for January. He reviewed our current revenue position based on the new membership totals and our current expenditure projections. He provided an explanation for the expenditure line items that currently exceed projections, as well as the final costs associated with our annual meeting held during the Capital Conference. At this point in the fiscal year, the budget remains on target with revenues higher than expected due to an increase in memberships and expenditures in line with projections.

Chad Hilliker moved and Jeff Brown seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for January, 2016. The motion passed.

## APPROVAL OF APPOINTMENT

Brian Poe moved and Joe Regano seconded a motion to appoint Clint Keener of Bay Village Schools to fill a vacancy in the Cuyahoga Region of the Alliance Executive Committee. The motion passed unanimously.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### A. Current Legislative Concerns.

1. **HB 420** – Jim provided the committee with an update on the status of HB 420 and what ODE proposed as a solution to legislators. The Department agreed to add data to the report card to show the differences in PI and AYP due to inclusion or exclusion of “opt-outs” from state tests, and the House Education Committee postponed a decision on HB 420. The bill has been set aside until it can be determined if any further action is necessary.

2. **ESSA** – Members of the task group, who are working on a position paper to be used in discussions with Alliance members and ODE, took some time to review a preliminary position document with the committee. A meeting with a member of the Department of Education, scheduled to follow the executive committee meeting, will begin the process of providing stakeholder input on behalf of Alliance members into the ESSA reauthorization and application process. The members of the task force, along with members of the accountability committee, will attend.

3. **SB 3 – Deregulation** – Jim updated the committee on the status of SB 3 in the House. While the bill had been scheduled to be heard this month, the legislation was pulled from the last House Education Committee agenda due to confusion surrounding several recently proposed amendments. We anticipate that it will return to the agenda sometime in March. One cause for the hold up has been a series of amendments recently proposed concerning charter school accountability. We will continue to monitor this bill as it moves forward.

4. **HB 401 – Charter Schools** – Jim updated members on the provisions of HB 401, which would require greater transparency by charter and non-public schools in the provision of information to parents and the community regarding financial, administrative, extra-curricular and academic issues.

5. **HB 410 - Truancy** – Jim updated the members on the provisions of HB 410 that would reduce reliance on the courts, but increase district involvement dealing with students who are truant. New mandated increased levels of remediation services may incur additional costs for districts. The education organizations have already testified on this bill and have expressed those concerns to the House Education Committee. We will continue to monitor this bill in committee.

6. **College Credit Plus / HB 445** – Jim indicated that HB 445 is concerned with credit ratios and weighted grading, but also may be a vehicle for us to achieve the means testing that we have previously sought both for tuition and costs associated with supplies and materials. We hope to discuss this with Representative Brenner when we meet with him on March 1.

7. **Foundation Formula / Minimum Funding Level** – We continue to work on these issues when in discussions with members of the House and Senate. One of the issues we face is the lack of representation in the legislative districts of key members of the House and Senate who lack a connection to our organization. That may change in the Senate because it appears that some of the new Senate leaders will have Alliance member districts within their constituencies. The House is a different story and it will require a new set of strategies as we reach out to make those connections. We will be discussing this further with members at our regional meetings in March.

**B. Meetings with Key Stakeholders.**

1. **State Superintendent / ODE Staff** – A meeting with Jessica Voltolini of ODE to discuss ESSA Reauthorization is scheduled for February 24th at 12:00 following the Executive Committee meeting. Members of the ESSA Task Group and Accountability Committee, along with Tony Podojil and Jim Betts, will attend.

2. **House Education Committee** – The Education Advisory Committee, put together by the Alliance, met with Andrew Brenner (R-Olentangy), the new Chair of the House Education Committee on February 3rd. That meeting laid the groundwork for regular meetings in the future with the Representative; the next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 1st at 9:30 AM at BASA.

**C. Membership.**

1. **New Members** – Tony reported that four districts remain on our list of potential new members including Minster, Parma, Rossford and Bowling Green. Members should encourage representatives from these districts to attend our upcoming regional meetings.

**D. Quality Profile.**

Tony informed the committee that a media release, to coincide with the release of the state report card, was distributed on February 23rd. This allowed districts to highlight their earlier release of the Quality Profile last September. He also indicated that he had met with 8-9 districts out of the East Central ESC Region to discuss their participation in the Fall, 2016 release.

**E. Communications.**

Information on HB 420 and the media release on the Quality Profile were sent to members in February.

**LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

Jim Betts provided a summary of the deliberations of the February 10th meeting when the major focus was HB 420, the state testing system, and the fiscal impact that the College Credit Plus program was having on districts.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9th.

**ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

Jim Betts reported on the committee's February conference call in which the committee discussed HB 420 and the Department's position on "opt outs." In addition, the committee discussed the upcoming opportunities to weigh in on the ESSA Reauthorization discussions with the Department, which will become a major focus of this group in upcoming meetings.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 16th.

**OLD BUSINESS**

**A. Regional Meeting Dates.**

The notices for our next round of regional meetings have been sent to members. The first meeting, set for the Toledo area is on March 3<sup>rd</sup>. The Northern/Cuyahoga Region will meet on March 4<sup>th</sup>. The Southern and Central regions are scheduled during the week of March 7th.

**B. Steering Committee – Transition.** Jeff Brown, Chair of the Transition Committee, updated the executive committee on the work of that group to date. They are collecting information from several sources as they plan to put together a strategy going forward.

**C. The Ohio Standards Coalition.**

It is the recommendation of the Executive Director that we continue our membership in the Ohio Standards Coalition. This does not require any formal action by the committee. Our involvement has given us an opportunity to express our particular viewpoints as it actively supported the Common Core and provided sound input in the state testing debate. We will make future meeting notices available to members of the Executive Committee and encourage your attendance when possible. This may be easier for those members in the Columbus area because the meetings are routinely held in downtown Columbus.

The Executive Committee agreed that we should continue with our membership and regular attendance at the meetings.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**A. Executive Committee Membership.**

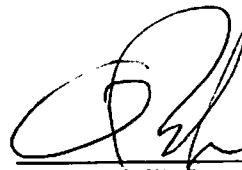
1. **Cincinnati Region** – With the announced retirement of Steve Kramer (Madeira), an opening now exists in the Cincinnati region beginning in the 16/17 school year. After a short discussion, Steve Kramer moved and Joe Regano seconded the approval of Scot Prebles, now at Forest Hills, to fill that vacancy. The motion passed.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Tony Podojil adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 23<sup>rd</sup> at 9:30 a.m. at BASA.

**CERTIFICATE**

I, 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 February 24, 2016.



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Tony Podojil, Executive Director