

**ALLIANCE FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION  
LEGISLATIVE/SYSTEMS IMPROVEMENT COMMITTEE**

**September 13, 2017**

**10:00 A.M.**

**MEETING SUMMARY**

*In attendance on phone conference:* Tim Pickana, Beth Weber, Andy Culp, Cathy Aukerman, Todd Puster, Andrew Geistfeld, Scott Inskeep, Dan Schall, Jenni Logan, Brian Wilson, Mike Dovilla and Tony Podojil.

Tony Podojil convened the meeting by phone conference at 10:00 a.m.

**I. Current Political Landscape/Legislative Initiatives**

**A. Biennium Budget**

**1. Guarantees, Caps and Fair Funding Levels**

Mike provided the committee with a review of the discussions held with Rep. Dever to craft a possible legislative solution to matters of concern that were not included in the budget, specifically adopting fair funding language for the next biennium, restoring the TPP supplement for the current budget, and incorporating a more gradual TPP run-out period.

In terms of legislative strategies, Rep. Dever intends to raise the school funding issue requesting that the General Assembly fully fund the formula allowing the districts on the cap to receive the funds being held. In turn, he would also pursue a change to the per-pupil formula amount that would protect guarantee districts and bring the formula amount closer to real costs.

Whether or not this strategy will be effective and lead to a legislative change during this session, Rep. Dever hopes to create enough dissonance and concern among members resulting in several of the items we missed in the budget process such being considered during this session.

**2. TPP**

Tony indicated that he has reached out to several members of the Coalition for their assistance when and if testimony is needed to advocate for the solution proposed by Senator Gardner during the budget process. Belpre and Lordstown have both expressed a willingness to become involved if needed. At the minimum, a change to the runout language from 5/8 mill to ¼ mill would be a welcomed change for those districts who still have TPP remaining.

**B. ESSA**

**1. Application Process**

We are anticipating that the Department will be submitting their application some time this month. Based on the conversations we have

had with Rep. Brenner, we fully anticipate the General Assembly will be weighing in on the details of that application once they see the completed version. The application being submitted is in the Department's name and not on the part of the State of Ohio. Currently, the application is being reviewed by the Governor's office.

C. **Ohio Department of Education**

1. **High School Graduation Requirements**

There are already discussions being held on the fate of the class of 2019 and beyond. This is an area we will be monitoring closely to determine where and when input is needed. It appears this will be discussed by both the State Board and in the House Education Committee this fall.

2. **Gifted Operating Standards**

We are hearing from members that there are several areas of concern related to the new gifted operating standards. In particular, the professional development requirement of 60 hours of in-service over a two-year period has been difficult to achieve in terms of providers and the costs related to the training. We intend to have a deeper discussion on this topic when we meet during the regional meetings to be held in October.

3. **RESA**

Tony advised that members go back and look at the Department's latest guidance document related to changes to RESA. It appears that districts have been afforded flexibility related to the requirements for years three and four of the program. Feedback is needed regarding the impact of those changes on districts. This can be a topic for further discussion when we meet again in October.

II. **Legislative Strategies**

A. **House Education Committee - Brenner**

Mike provided the Committee with a summary of the topics discussed when the Committee met with Chairman Brenner on 9/11/17. That summary is attached. Topics included a discussion on the budget, graduation requirements, H.B. 200, H.B. 176 and H.B. 181, as well as an overview of what to expect in the General Assembly during the coming months.

B. **Senate Leadership**

We will be meeting with Senator Lehner this month to begin a dialogue with her on the topics briefed during the meeting today.

### III. **Next Steps**

#### A. **Regional Meetings**

Regional meetings will be held during the first two weeks of October. All are encouraged to attend.

### IV. **Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be **October 11, 10:00 a.m. by phone conference if necessary.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:00 a.m.