

THE ALLIANCE FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

February 28, 2018

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 February 28, 2018, in the BASA Conference Room located at 8050 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Robert Scott	Avon Lake City Schools
Clint Keener	Bay Village City School District
Mike Sheppard	Berea City School District
Robert Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village School District
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City School District
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Village School District
Chad Hilliker	Hamilton County ESC
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District
Gail Kist-Kline	Mason City School District
Thomas Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village School District
Joe Regano	Solon City Schools
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City Schools
Trent Bowers	Worthington City Schools

Also, in attendance were Alliance Executive Director Anthony Podojil, and Executive Assistant Patricia Cali.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Bob Scott moved and Nancy Santilli seconded that the Committee move into Executive Session to discuss the recently vacated Legislative Consultant position and committee leadership. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee returned from Executive Session at 9:45a.m.

Gail Kist-Kline moved and Brian Poe seconded the appointment of Tom Hosler as Chair and Jeff Brown as Vice Chair beginning on July 1, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

The Executive Committee meeting minutes from January 24, 2018, were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Jeff Brown moved and Joe Regano seconded the approval of the minutes for January 24, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for January. He indicated that we are on target to meet our budget projections in terms of both revenue and expenditure targets. The decrease in expenditures related to the Legislative Consultant position remaining unfilled will leave us with a positive cash adjustment since revenues will be significantly impacted in a positive manner.

Clint Keener moved and Chad Hilliker seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for January 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

He also pointed out that one remaining fiscal issue that needs to be addressed relates to the outstanding balance remaining for the Fair Funding Project (\$750.00). Based on the length of time that the Alliance has carried this remaining obligation and the need to clear our books for audit purposes he recommended that the Alliance close out that account and clear the expense from the budget.

Nancy Santilli moved and Tom Hosler seconded the approval of an expenditure of \$750.00 that would close out the Fair Funding Project. The motion passed unanimously.

B. ESC of Central Ohio Employment Agreement

Tony provided a copy of the contract that the Alliance has entered into with the ESC of Central Ohio, for the administrative assistant services, as discussed in January's Executive Committee meeting to each member.

Nancy Santilli moved and Thomas Hosler seconded the approval of the contract with the ESC of Central Ohio. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns

1. **Department of Learning and Achievement (DLA) House Proposal** –Tony provided the committee with an update on the proposal that would create a new cabinet level agency entitled the Department of Learning and Achievement (DLA), which will consist of the Ohio Department of Education (ODE), Ohio Department of Higher Education and the Governor's Office of Workforce Transformation. The committee expressed several concerns on this topic, including the following:

- Who makes Educational Policy in this new model? Governor? General Assembly?
- Does the elimination of the State School Board undermines the current system of checks and balances?
- Where and who do we voice concerns regarding education policy?
- How would the DLA prioritize K- 12 public education needs against the focus strictly on preparing children for specific workforce needs?
- Who takes on the leadership role when issues need to be discussed?

During the conversation, the committee agreed the manner in which decisions are made currently is not an effective process. However, based on the concerns raised above it would be premature to offer support or opposition to this change. The committee would like to be able to provide input and feedback to help with the development of solution that would make the education policy decision making process more effective, inclusive and responsive to current needs. The committee suggested that an appropriate next step would be to meet with the sponsors and stakeholders connected to the DLA proposal in order to get a better understanding of what the changes are and how those changes will affect school districts.

It was decided that Tony Podojil, Thomas Hosler, Joe Regano, Chad Hilliker, Robert Hunt and Trent Bowers would be part of the group to reach out to meet with the sponsors of the bill.

2. House School Funding Task Force – Tom Hosler and Scot Prebles provided the committee with an update on the work they have been doing as co-chairs of sub-committees on the House Education Funding Task Force. Tom is co-chairing the Base Cost Review subcommittee and Scot is co-chairing the Open Enrollment, Community Schools and Vouchers. There are several other sub-committees including Special and Gifted Education and ELL, ESC's, Career Tech and Stem, Technology, Transportation, and Poverty and Pre-K Education.

Rep. Cupp and Patterson are chairing the overall task force and the goal is to conduct an extensive review of the current funding methods to make recommendations that can then be shared with the incoming administration prior to the development of the next biennium budget. Work will continue in the sub-committees over the next several months. A final report is slated to be completed this summer.

3. SB216 – Tony provided an update on the status of SB216. At the present, an amended version of the bill, that included the removal of the KRA provision and the insertion of several changes to the gifted education professional development proposal, is being considered by the Senate Education Committee. That should occur this week or next. Once we see the final version, we will be able to respond to the changes being considered. We anticipate working on the document when the Legislative Committee meets on 3/14/18.

In regard to the gifted education amendment, Tony indicated that he has been working with Ann Sheldon (Gifted Lobby) and Tom Ash (BASA) on several changes to the gifted rules that would alter the timeline and requirements associated with the professional development requirements. These changes included the following:

- Lengthen the number of years required to meet the standards from two to four,
- give credit to AP and IB programs for up to 30 hours for those teachers who have earned that endorsement and
- allowing districts to receive credit for servicing students once they enter the training process.

While everyone agreed that they would prefer this requirement waived in totality, they all agreed that the changes being sought would be of benefit to districts as they attempted to meet the rule.

4. HB343 and HB371 – Tony indicated that he has been working with education organizations on these two proposals that deal with changes to the property valuation challenge process. We remain opposed to any changes in this area and will lend our support to the organizations as these bills move through the general assembly. The email that was sent to all BASA, OSBA and OASBO members was forwarded to our members encouraging them to contact their representatives.

5. HB360 – Bullying – Tony indicated that he is waiting to see the changes made to the bill that Rep. Brenner indicated were in the planning stages. The changes would allow districts more discretion in terms of how and when the provisions of this bill would become effective. We will be discussing this when the legislative committee meets again in March.

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. Regional meetings have been scheduled, similar to what the department did when they sought stakeholder feedback during the ESSA application process, for members to learn more about this project and over their own opinions.

2. **Graduation Requirements** – During the January state board meeting, the board agreed to extend the changes made for the class of 2018 to include the class of 2019. We are still waiting to see if they are going to make changes for the class of 2020 and beyond. Rep. Brenner has indicated that he has been working on bill that would address this issue. We hope to be able to have a discussion with him when we meet with his Advisory Group on March 12.

3. **ESSA** – The ESSA application has been approved and the department has begun rolling out to the field how the specific provisions change current standards of operation.

C. Meetings with Key Stakeholders.

1. **Meeting with House Education Committee Chair** - The next meeting of the Education Advisory Committee with House Education Chairman Brenner is tentatively scheduled for Monday, March 12th, at 10:00 a.m. Items to be discussed included HB410 (changing exemption percentage from 90 to 95), State Report Card Revisions, Graduation Requirements, and the Department of Learning and Achievement Proposal.

2. **Rep. Duffey – Report Card Proposal** – In addition to the anticipated proposal being developed by Rep. Brenner, Rep. Duffey has also developed his own version of a report card proposal. Both of these are the result of the confusion that the value-added measure has had in their communities regarding the academic progress of their schools. Several of the members have had a chance to meet with Rep. Duffey and discuss his proposal. Tony indicated he would work to set up a meeting with Rep. Duffey and Jeff Brown to discuss the proposal. He was also planning on attending the IP meeting that Rep. Duffy had scheduled for 3/8/18.

D. Membership.

1. **Regional Meeting Schedule** – Tony provided an update on the Southern and Central Regional meetings. The Toledo and Northern/Cuyahoga County Regional meetings will be held in early March (5th and 9th respectively). The focus of those meetings will be on current legislative initiatives including those discussed at today’s meeting.

2. **Membership – 2017/2018** - Tony stated we have now received dues from both Independence and Centerville. There was some confusion around how those were paid and that issue has been resolved.

3. **Membership – 2018/2019** - Tony has had conversations with two new potential members (Brooklyn and Lebanon). He encouraged committee members to reach out to those superintendents to see if they had any questions or need more information related to membership.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on February 14, 2018 was distributed earlier to members for their review. The contents of that meeting were reviewed during the Executive Director’s report.

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 14, 2018.

ESSA/ACCOUNTABILITY TASK GROUP

The next meeting is tentatively scheduled for March 21, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. **Strategic Planning** – Do to time constraints, this item was differed for discussion when the committee meets again in March.

ADJOURNMENT

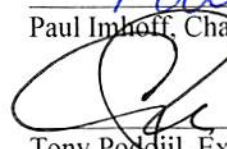
Tom Hosler adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, March 28, 2018, at 9:30 a.m. at BASA.

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 February 28, 2018.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podajil, Executive Director