

**MINUTES OF THE ANNUAL MEETING
OF THE MEMBERSHIP
OF THE ALLIANCE FOR
HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION**

November 14, 2016

Chairman Paul Imhoff, Superintendent of Upper Arlington City Schools, called to order the Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 12:15 p.m. on Monday, November 14, 2016 in the Bellows Room of the Hilton Columbus Downtown Hotel, adjacent to the Greater Columbus Convention Center, Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Fifty-six member districts and two non-member districts were represented and a quorum was reached.

MINUTES / FISCAL REPORTS

Scot Prebles moved and Matt Miller seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on November 9, 2015 as submitted. The motion was adopted.

Gail Kist-Kline moved and Steve Kramer seconded a motion to approve and accept the fiscal report for FY2016 as submitted. The motion was adopted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Dr. Anthony Podojil addressed the gathering by recapping the highlights and the major activities of the Alliance over the last year in the following areas:

Membership / Budget – Our current membership is 70 districts, an all-time high for the organization. With that level of membership, our budget has remained stable and solvent, while fully meeting the needs of a larger, very dynamic organization.

Committees– In addition to the regular monthly meetings of the Executive Committee, two other committees meet regularly to promote Alliance positions and keep members informed; Legislative, Accountability and ESSA. Additional affiliated meetings include the House Education Advisory Committee and the Minimum Fair Funding Coalition, which includes both member and non-member districts.

Also, we have continued to hold regional meetings at least twice a year, once in the Fall and then again in the Spring. Those meetings traditionally have been held in Toledo, Cleveland, Columbus and Cincinnati to both inform members and receive feedback.

Legislative – The Alliance has been working actively on several pieces of legislation including HB 524 (Value-Added), SB 3 (Deregulation), HB 410 (Truancy and College Credit Plus) and HB 445 (College Credit Plus).

State Board of Education / ODE – Over the last several years, the Alliance has made an active effort to attend the State Board of Education meetings to provide direct input on the State Report Card, the new High School Graduation requirements. Charter school funding and the proposed changes to the gifted operating standards.

Biennium Budget – Prior to the introduction of a new budget bill, the Alliance has once again established several specific objectives; primary among them are retention of the basic principle of guaranteed funding for school districts, maintaining TPP personal property reimbursements at the FY2015 level, establishing a minimum per pupil funding level at no less than that amount paid to chartered non-public schools and removing the funding caps. The General Assembly responded favorably during the last budget process, at least in part, to these requests – retaining guarantees, providing for an adequate TPP solution, and crafting a phased-in formula for the minimum amount – but the Governor vetoed the FY2017 TPP solution and the legislature’s attempt to address the minimum amount. The Alliance is already working with legislators to re-insert these provisions into the FY2018-2019 budget bill and separately to find a way to avoid another veto by the Governor.

Quality Profile – District participation in the Quality Profile continues to grow, both among Alliance member districts, and non-Alliance members. Approximately 80 school districts participated this year.

PRESENTATION OF THE ALLIANCE’S 25TH ANNIVERSARY – COMMEMORATIVE ACTIVITIES

Jim Betts provided an historical overview of the 25 years of the Alliance as an organization advocating for public education. Members were provided with a booklet that detailed the history of the organization and served as a commemoration of its 25th anniversary. Paul Imhoff spoke to the gathering offering his congratulations to the organization and, in particular, to Jim for the role he has played in the evolution of the Alliance over the last 25 years. Paul indicated that member districts and everyone involved in Ohio education have benefited from Jim’s efforts to bring about meaningful change during his time with the organization.

Jim addressed the group offering his sincere appreciation for the support he has received, the friendships he has made and his enhanced appreciation for the role educators play in the lives of Ohio’s youth.

SPECIAL PANEL PRESENTATION

Jim Betts facilitated the traditional panel discussion that this year consisted of two distinguished legislators: State Representative Andrew Brenner, District 67 and current chair of the House Education Committee, and Representative Mike Dovilla, District 7 and currently Majority Whip in the House. Both have been important contributing members of the House Republican Caucus.

Both legislators demonstrated their knowledge, expertise and thoughtful approach to education policy issues, including TPP reimbursements, testing, the Common Core and AIR testing, College Credit Plus, charter funding and “opt outs.”

OLD BUSINESS

No old business items came before the membership.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business items came before the membership.

SUMMARY / REMARKS

Paul Imhoff closed the meeting by thanking those in attendance for their support and invited all to a reception at 4:00 p.m. in the Convention Center to recognize the Alliance’s 25th anniversary.

ADJOURNMENT

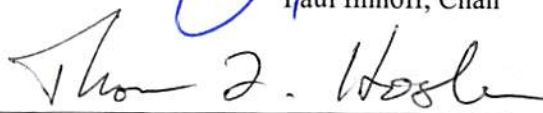
Chairman Imhoff adjourned the meeting at 1:40 p. m.

CERTIFICATE

We, Paul Imhoff, Chair of the Alliance for High Quality Education, and Tom Hosler, Vice-Chair, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Members of the Alliance for High Quality Education held November 14, 2016.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tom Hosler, Vice-Chair