

THE ALLIANCE FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES

March 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 March 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
Mike Sheppard	Berea City School District-(Proxy)
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City School District
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills-(Proxy)
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Village School District
Chad Hilliker	Hamilton County ESC
John Marschhausen	Hilliard City School District
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District-(Proxy)
Steven Estep	Mariemont City Schools-(Proxy)
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City School District
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City Schools

Also, in attendance were Alliance Executive Director Anthony Podojil, Jessica Voltolini and Executive Assistant Patricia Cali. Proxy votes were submitted by Steven Estep, Nancy Santilli, Michael Sheppard and Scot Prebles.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chad Hilliker moved and Brian Poe seconded that the Committee move into Executive Session to discuss the contracts related to the vacant Legislative Consultant position. The motion passed unanimously.

The Committee returned from Executive Session at 9:55a.m.

Jeff Brown moved and Brian Poe seconded the approval of the Contract with IceMiller Whiteboard and the appointment of Jessica Voltolini to the Legislative Consultant position pending legal review of the contract. The motion passed unanimously.

MINUTES

The meeting minutes from the February 28, 2018 Executive Committee meeting were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Chad Hilliker moved and Jeff Brown seconded the approval of the minutes for February 28, 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for February. He indicated that we are on target to meet our budget projections in terms of both revenue and expenditure targets.

Tony stated that \$250.00 of the remaining billing amount for the Fair Funding Project will be sent in shortly. That leaves only 500.00 of the 750.00 balance outstanding for the Fair Funding Project that was previously approved in February to close the account.

John Marschhausen moved and Kathryn Powers seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for February 2018. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Current Legislative Concerns

1. **HB512 - Department of Learning and Achievement (DLA)** – Jessica provided the committee with an overview of her thoughts related to HB512 and what we might anticipate in terms of a timeline going forward. In terms of timing, she indicated that House will attempt to vote the bill out of committee after the primaries have been completed. If that doesn't happen, the bill will in all likelihood die in committee. If the bill is voted out and the House approves it, the timing of that approval will ultimately push the Senate to take up the bill during lame duck since we anticipate very little, if any, legislative activity occurring prior to the November elections.

In addition to the timeline discussion, Jessica shed some light on the rationale behind the bill. She indicated that the Governor started working on this proposal over two years ago in an effort to streamline the structure in which education policy is developed. The question asked by the executive branch was how is the Department of Education any different than any other cabinet level department?

Committee members reviewed the discussion from our last meeting in which it was acknowledged that the process in which education policy is influenced, in many instances, by conflicting sources be it the Governor's Office, the General Assembly, the State Board of Education and/or the Department of Education, the structure and process lacks a clear focus and the leadership designed to drive those changes has been disjointed. This has resulted in, over the last decade, substantial change to process and procedures leading to confusion and lack of support by the field.

In terms of offering an alternative to the proposal, the committee indicated that we should discuss possible changes from both a structure and process standpoint. In whatever new format is considered, how the field interacts and provides input regarding changes will be key to any future success. Who will lead the K-12 component of HB512? What qualifications will be necessary in order to place the most qualified individual into that position?

Tony indicated that the Alliance had been invited to attend an HB512 Interested Party meeting to be held sometime the week of April 2. It was decided that, prior to attending that meeting, a task force be established to discuss and begin to formulate our positions on this bill. That group, which will be composed of Tony Podojil, Jeff Brown, Kathryn Powers, Chad Hilliker, Jessica Voltolini and John Marschhausen is scheduled to meet via conference call on Tuesday, April 3 at 1:15 pm. A reminder notice will go out following the meeting and follow up discussions will be held with the Legislative committee when they meeting on April 11.

2. **SB216** – Tony provided an update on the status of SB216. Since it now has been voted out of the Senate it appears to be headed to the House Education Committee. Rep. Brenner has indicated that he intends to hold hearings on the bill soon and in general, is in agreement with the provisions contained in the bill. What may slow the approval and voting process is the inclusion of additional items to the bill including a new set of graduation requirements that Rep. Brenner has been working on. If that occurs, SB216 could be pushed to the lame duck session and could include a variety of other measures both related and unrelated to education.

3. **HB360 – Bullying** – This bill is still being heard in the House Education Committee and due to the timing of those hearings, it doesn't look like it will make it out of the committee in time for a vote prior to summer recess. If that occurs, like the other bills discussed previously, this could be pushed to lame duck.

4. **HB343 and HB371** – Both of these bills have moved to the Senate. We remain committed to working with the education organizations for the defeat of these bills in the Senate.

B. ODE/State Board of Education.

1. **Gifted Rule Changes** – The rules proposed in SB216 have been working their way through the State Board rule making process. We are anticipating that the full board will vote on the changes during their meeting in April. If that occurs, it will give districts ample time to make changes for next year. Luckily, we were able to move these changes through the State Board while also on a parallel track with General Assembly as they consider SB216.

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. That has been met with resistance by members of the General Assembly. As was discussed earlier, Rep. Brenner is considering introducing his own proposal than may or may not be in conflict with the State Board. It appears that the class of 2019 will be in a state of limbo going forward similar to what occurred with the Class of 2018 before changes were made.

3. **State Report Card** – Rep. Duffy's work on a State Report Card Revisions bill is still in the process of being developed. Timing will be critical in terms of when this will be released. The longer the delay, the less likely this will be heard before the House breaks for the summer.

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, May 7th, 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. Reineke – HB512** – In addition to the meeting we held with Rep. Reineke earlier, as indicated above, we will be attending the Interested Party meeting they are planning on scheduling next week.

D. Membership.

1. **Regional Meeting Schedule** – Tony provided an update on the Columbus, Cincinnati and Northern/Cuyahoga County Regional meetings. The focus of those meetings will be the current legislative initiatives including those discussed in today's meeting. The Toledo area Regional Meeting has been rescheduled for Friday, April 6 at 10:00 a.m.

2. **Membership – 2018/2019** - Tony stated The Alliance will be sending the dues invoices for next year starting in May.

3. **Membership – 2018/2019** - Tony continues conversations with two new potential members (Brooklyn and Lebanon). Chad Hilliker indicated he would reach out to Lebanon to encourage their consideration to become members.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on March 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 April 11, 2018.

ESSA/ACCOUNTABILITY TASK GROUP

A summary of the meeting held on March 21, 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 April 18, 2018.

OLD BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section.

NEW BUSINESS

A. National School Walkout – 4/20/18

Members of the committee were interested in learning more about how districts dealt with the March walkout and what they were planning on doing for the planned April Nationwide walkout. All agreed that this was a local decision that no matter how a district planned to address the situation, they were going to receive feedback both pro and con. All agreed, that these types of movements, when occurring on a regular and consistent basis, pose problems for districts as they balance the needs of the student body with our responsibilities related to safety, security and delivering education services.

ADJOURNMENT

Paul Imhoff adjourned the meeting at 11:30 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, April 25, 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 March 28, 2018.



Paul Imhoff, Chair



Tony Podojil, Executive Director