

**ALLIANCE FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION  
ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

**April 17, 2019  
10:30 A.M.  
MEETING SUMMARY**

*In attendance on phone conference:* Mike Hanlon, Kim Miller, Jennifer Farthing, Joe Regano, Robert Scott, Jessica Voltolini, and Tony Podojil

Tony Podojil convened the meeting by phone conference at 10:30 a.m. The primary focus of the meeting was to update the committee on the status of the Alliance Graduation proposal.

**I. Project Initiatives**

**A. Graduation Requirement Proposal**

Tony and Jessica shared that the final version of the Alliance's graduation proposal requires the mandatory course completion requirements and changes the accountability testing by establishing a competency requirement for only two tests, English II and Algebra 1. In addition to those two requirements, we established an endorsement/seal component that requires students to complete two endorsements one being a local and the other a state developed seal. This component will allow students to focus on developing skills in areas of interests and have those areas recognized on their diploma.

Tony indicated that he and Jessica had spent a considerable amount of time soliciting feedback from the Executive and Legislative committees as we worked on drafting and refining this proposal. Once that was completed, it was shared with the Ohio Department of Education, various educational organizations and groups, the teacher organizations, the Governor's office and representatives in the House and Senate.

Upon the urging of several members in the Senate, we reached out to the Business community (Ohio Excels) and Fordham in an effort to arrive at a consensus proposal that could be presented to the General Assembly with the intent of including it in the biennium budget.

Based on all of the above, they indicated that we had arrived at a consensus in terms of submitting a joint proposal with Ohio Excels and Fordham to the Senate and House with one exception; those organizations asked that the GPA alternative pathway be struck out. After a discussion with members of the committee and seeking their input, those on the call agreed that in light of what was retained in the original proposal, removing the GPA component was acceptable.

In addition, the members continue to feel strongly that advocating for what we believe to be a better solution was critical at this time. Our students not only deserve a long-term solution to the graduation requirements but also a fundamental shift that balances course completion, accountability with student experience and skill attainment.

**IV. Next Meeting**

The next meeting will be **May 15, 10:30 AM by phone conference.**

The meeting adjourned at 11:30 a.m.