

**THE ALLIANCE FOR  
HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION  
EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
MEETING MINUTES**

October 23, 2019

Vice-Chairperson Jeff Brown called to order a regular meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:45 a.m. on October 23, 2019 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 School District
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills School District
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District (Proxy)
Tim Ackermann	Kings Local School District
Bill Porter	Mentor Exempted Village School District
Michael Zalar	North Olmsted City School District
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City School District

Also, in attendance were Alliance Executive Director Anthony Podojil and Jessica Voltolini.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was held.

**MINUTES**

Executive Committee meeting minutes from September 25, 2019, were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Scott Prebles moved and Brian Poe seconded the approval of the minutes for September 25, 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**A. Fiscal Report.**

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial statement for September. Tony mentioned that the Alliance has been receiving payments toward the Alliance Annual Luncheon held in November and anticipates payments from several other districts that have registered. He also informed the committee that Milford will not be renewing their membership this year. Tony mentioned the need to upgrade our portable technology (iPad) due to the age of the technology and the inability to update the device. He indicated that he is anticipating a future technology equipment purchase sometime during this budget year.

Todd Hoadley moved and Robert Scott seconded the approval of the fiscal report for the month of September 2019. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. State Audit – 2019 Agreed Upon Procedures (AUP).**

Tony Podojil stated Upper Arlington is working with the Office of the State Auditor in the completion of the Alliance's audit. The audit is a Limited Agreed Upon Procedures Audit and should be completed this month. The results of that audit will be shared with the Executive Committee and then discussed when we meet again in January.

## EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

### A. Legislative Update

Jessica provided the committee with an overview of the following legislative items, including a summary sheet that was distributed and is attached for reference.

1. **HB305 (Reps. Cupp and Patterson) - School Funding Formula**

Currently the bill is in the House Finance Committee, and hearings having been scheduled. The task force is continuing to work outside of the legislative process on the concept of defining financial equity as well as building a support structure to help in moving the bill forward. We will be monitoring the hearings and then determine when it would be appropriate for the Alliance to testify. Jessica indicated she would update our position paper and testimony we used in the spring and share that with the committee for input.

2. **HB281 (Rep. Antani) - Naming a Valedictorian**

The bill has not had additional hearings and is still pending in House Primary & Secondary Education Committee.

3. **HB123 (Reps. Manning and Holmes) - School Security and Suicide Awareness**

This bill which focuses on school security and youth suicide awareness education and training passed House by a vote of 85-7. The bill has had two hearings this fall in Senate Education Committee and we are anticipating it be heard soon again in that committee. A detailed description of the bill's provisions is included in the summary document attached. Tony and Jessica will be schedule legislative meetings to discuss with legislators.

4. **HB239 (Rep. Manning) - Testing Reduction Act**

No change in the status of this bill since our last meeting. It may remain dormant in committee unless there is a change overall in the support for discontinuing the American History and Government test, which is highly unlikely at this time.

5. **HB322 (Reps. Jones and D. Manning) - Resident Educator (RE) Program**

This bill, which would eliminate the current requirements to maintain administer the Resident Educator Summative Assessment as part of the Resident Educator program, could be heard once the House Primary & Secondary Education Committee starts hearings this fall. Rep. Jones, who is one of the co-sponsors of the bill, is now the committee chair.

6. **HB154 (Reps. Miller and Jones) - Academic Distress Commissions**

The bill has stalled in the Senate Education Committee. Any changes may be tied to future changes to the State Report Card.

7. **SB26 (Sen. Kunze) - Tax Exemption for Teachers**

This bill will exempt teachers from paying taxes when buying supplies for their classrooms and paying on their own. The legislation has passed both chambers and is pending signature by the Governor.

8. **SB102 (Sens. Brenner and Lehner) - Dyslexia Screening**

This bill would add mandatory dyslexia screening for all public schools for kindergarten and first grade, The bill's joint sponsors are Senators Lehner and Brenner. Grades beyond first will have targeted screenings for children exhibiting signs of being at risk for dyslexia. Under the current version of the bill, districts will retain local control in determining which screening tool they will use so long as the screening tool is vetted and included on a approve list to be published by the ODE. This bill has had several hearings in Senate Education

Committee. The major issue with this legislation entails what instruments can be used as screening tools. Advocates have been promoting a lengthy (one hour) and comprehensive evaluative instrument that has schools concerned in terms of time and funding in which to accomplish the requirement. Jessica will keep the committee posted as the bill moves forward and hearings are scheduled.

9. **SB121 (Sens. Sykes and Kunze) - Health Education Standards**

This bill would require ODE to develop a common set of state health standards that would be permissive in terms of district requirements. As has occurred in the past, proposals dealing with health standards have been met with resistance by the general assembly as it relates to what is included in the sex education components of such a policy. We will continue to monitor the bill going forward.

10. **SB89 (Sen. M. Huffman) - Career-Tech Education**

This is currently on our watch list since it did not move forward in the budget bill. The bill passed the Senate last week.

11. **SB221 (Sen. Dolan) - Gun Reform/STRONG Ohio**

Please refer to the attached summary provided by Jessica. We have spoken to both Senator Dolan and representatives in the Governor's office related to how we can help support the bill. As we emphasized last General Assembly when Gov. Kasich proposed similar measures, a more accurate and timely background checks system is needed as well as some type of mechanism to support schools when issues related to student mental health are identified that then can be follow-upped by some type of assistance or monitoring mechanism.

12. **Rep. Callender School Transportation Bill Draft**

Rep. Callender has been discussing the need to develop a more centralized approach to the delivery of school transportation services. We are anticipating that he will be introducing a bill soon. We will be reaching out to his office to discuss this in more detail.

**B. ODE/State Board of Education/Stakeholders**

1. **Graduation Requirements Implementation**

Tony and Jessica shared that they have met with representatives at ODE along with the partners who worked with us on the graduation requirements to discuss the process to be used to establish the new competency scores for Algebra I and Geometry. It would appear from these initial conversations that it is more likely that the scores will not be set until closer to the March legislative deadline rather than the state superintendent earlier pronouncement that he wanted them established prior to the end of the calendar year.

2. **State Report Card Revision Process**

Tony and Jessica shared they have had several meetings with multiple education organizations and have talked to Rep. Jones and Rep. Manchester on this topic. The committee agreed, if at all possible, to move away from the A-F report card. The committee was in favor of simplifying the report by only including measures related to achievement, progress, graduation and gap closing.

Jessica mentioned that she will finalize the AHQE white paper based on the discussions we have had with the Executive, Legislative, and Accountability Committees and from conversations with members during the regional meetings. The white paper will be shared with AHQE members for their review since our next meeting will not occur until January. Overall, the goal is to get a report card bill introduced during the first quarter of 2020 and hopefully pass by July 2020.

**C. Membership**

1. **Dues Payments**

All dues payments have been received. Tony informed the committee that Milford will not be renewing their membership.

2. **Alliance Luncheon**

Tony informed the group that currently we have 400 guests registered and we will begin to send out confirmations and the menu this week as we work to get an accurate total of guests to send to the hotel.

**D. Questions for Annual Luncheon Legislative Panel (Rep. Jones and Sen. Dolan)**

Jessica asked for the group to offer suggestions on the questions or topics to ask the panel at the luncheon. She will send the questions to the Executive Committee via email for approval.

**LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

A summary of the meeting held on October 9, 2019 was made available and the contents of that meeting were reviewed during the Executive Director's report related to the legislative update.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2019 if needed.

**ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

A summary of the meeting held on October 9, 2019 relating to the changes for the State Report Card were reviewed during the Executive Director's report.

The next meeting is scheduled for November 13, 2019 if needed.

**OLD BUSINESS**

No business discussed in this section.

**NEW BUSINESS**

No business discussed in this section.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Jeff Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:15 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for November 11, 2019, at the Alliance Annual Luncheon.

**CERTIFICATE**

I, Jeff Brown, Vice-Chairperson, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes from the Meeting of the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education held October 23, 2019.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeff Brown, Vice-Chairperson

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Tony Podojil, Executive Director