

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

May 27, 2020

Chairperson Tom Hosler called to order a video conference meeting for the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:30 a.m. on May 27, 2020. The Executive Committee met by video conference due to the closing of schools based on health concerns related to the spread of Coronavirus.

Those members in attendance on the video conference from the Executive Committee were:

Robert Scott	Avon Lake City School District
Robert Hunt	Chagrin Falls Exempted Village School District
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools
Todd Hoadley	Dublin City Schools
Chad Hilliker	ESC of Hamilton County
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills School District
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Village School District
John Marschhausen	Hilliard City School District
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District
Tim Ackermann	Kings Local School District
Steve Estep	Mariemont City School District
William Porter	Mentor Exempted Village School District
Fred Bolden	Solon City School District
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City School District
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City School District
Trent Bowers	Worthington City Schools

Also, present were Alliance Executive Director Tony Podojil and Legislative Consultant Jessica Voltolini.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

No Executive Session was held.

**MINUTES**

Executive Committee meeting minutes from April 22, 2020 were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Bob Scott moved, and Jeff Brown seconded the approval of the minutes for April 22, 2020. The motion passed unanimously.

**FINANCIAL REPORT**

**A. Fiscal Report.**

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for April. April expenses included the purchase of a laptop and purchase of the Zoom meeting license. A copy of the financial report was electronically distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Scot Prebles moved, and Todd Hoadley seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for the month of April. The motion passed unanimously.

**B. Ice Miller Whitehead 20-21 Agreement.**

A copy of the agreement for the 20-21 term was electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review. The contract extension will appear on the June agenda for consideration.

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

**A. Coronavirus Update – Current Status.**

**1. Budget Reductions – Possible Amendment**

Tony has been in communication with Senator Dolan in respect to the Governors SY20 budget cuts for school districts. Senator Dolan is planning on introducing an amendment to the Senate version of the Capital Re-appropriation Bill, that would provide relief to 103 school districts. We have not yet seen the amendment so we cannot comment on the financial impact. The Capital bill should pass prior to the General Assembly taking their June recess. The Senate Finance Committee and the House is starting discussion on the bill today, updates will be sent to members.

**2. ODE Reset – Restart Guidelines**

Tony shared the feedback he has received on the Education Recovery Plan Framework document from the conversations with the stakeholders on the ODE weekly call as well as with the members of the Alliance COVID-19 committee. It was suggested that we make a list that separates items from those that can be decided at the local level and those that need to be made at the state level as it pertains to planning related to reopening schools.

One item of immediate concern relates to transportation. Limitations that impact transportation involving route changes, multiple schedules, and providing bus transportation to parochial and private schools need to be known as soon as possible. Clarification also needs to be made as to the CDC guidelines which suggest one student in every other seat and the ODH guidance which seems to suggest that one student per seat unless sitting with a sibling is allowed.

The second item relates to the limitations on the number of students that can be in a classroom and keeping the same teacher with the same students all day. There are differences that need clarification between the CDC and the ODH guideline documents in this area. Knowing capacity limits for a building and classroom are key to how schedules can be developed.

The Education Recovery Plan Framework document should be released in early June with the health section being the only required section. The rest of the document is a recommendation and up to the districts to decide what works for them.

**3. Planning for 20 – 21 School Year**

Most districts are planning to offer in school, online and a combination of both to their students. In most cases, the local health departments are stating that the Superintendents are to make their own decisions based on feedback from their department. There are concerns over social distancing in regards to sports and then going to class, parents not sending students back to class, teachers not being able to go back to class, transportation being cut for all high school students, pick up and drop off to career centers.

## **Questions:**

Will the ESC's be able to help with local school districts superintendents in terms networking and sharing activities the districts can participate in or take place based on the region's current situation?

State Assessments should not be required if each district has such different options and is under local control.

The other entities such as restaurant, weddings, etc. have less restrictions but districts must keep kids apart. When the bell rings carpools are picking up groups of students who have been kept apart all day. How do we keep them safe when everything around them is not as strict in terms of social distancing?

Can we get a list of the superintendents that are giving input to the ODE on guidance?

How can we communicate regionally and across the state of how things are being handled, so that we can have more of a standard approach for each district, communicating with each other as well, and share some of our own ways of handling things.

When decisions are made by a superintendent to open, what level of liability will local schools be exposed to or exempt from?

If school goes back in session will districts have to provide a virtual option, if we do not currently, would we be required to do that?

How are the career centers handling these issues?

Can parents sign a wavier to allow their child to be on a bus that contains more than the required limits?

## **B. Current Legislative Update.**

### **1. Alliance Legislative Priorities**

We may need to go to the legislature on the topic of transportation and for clarification on the furlough language to help with the budget needs for the district. Jessica has a call today with the Senate on furloughing and licensure flexibility, she will keep members posted.

### **2. EdChoice – Lawsuit**

Jessica updated the committee on the current state of negotiations related to EdChoice and asked if any members were asked to join in the lawsuit recently discussed in the media. At this point, the suit has yet to be filed. She will keep the members posted on updates related to the lawsuit.

## **C. ODE/State Board of Education.**

### **1. Stakeholder Calls**

Tony shared that calls continue each Tuesday at 10:00 AM. Attendance on those calls remains in the 40 – 50 range each week. We will continue with the calls on a weekly basis if the need to communicate regularly is needed. Since we are holding these calls each week, we have suspended the Legislative and Accountability Committee meetings.

#### **D. Meetings with Key Stakeholders – Legislative Schedule**

##### **1. Rep. Jones - House Primary and Secondary Education Chair**

We continue to discuss with Chair Jones our legislative priorities in anticipation these will be discussed in committee during this session or be taken up by another committee.

##### **2. Sen. Lehner—Senate Education Committee Chair**

We continue to discuss with Chair Lehner our legislative priorities in anticipation these will be discussed in committee during this session or be taken up by another committee.

##### **3. Education Organizations/Ohio 8/Ohio Excels**

Tony shared he has had discussions with the Ohio 8 related to Dolan's funding proposal to insure them that our intentions are to replace funding that was reduced with additional funds rather than reducing funding from other districts.

#### **E. Alliance COVID 19 Meetings**

##### **1. 4/28, 5/5, 5/12, 5/19**

We continue to have these calls every Tuesday with between 40 to 50 participants on the call. Members seem to appreciate the ability to share thoughts and questions on the calls with other members.

#### **F. Membership**

##### **1. Dues Notice Sent for 20-21 SY**

Dues notices were sent out May 1, 2020 for 20-21.

#### **LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE**

The meeting scheduled for May was postponed.

The next meeting is scheduled is TBD.

#### **ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE**

The meeting scheduled for May was postponed.

The next meeting is scheduled is TBD.

#### **OLD BUSINESS**

No business discussed in this section.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

No business discussed in this section.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

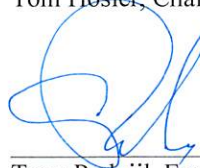
Chairperson Tom Hosler adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 24, 2020, at 9:30 a.m. location TBD.

## **CERTIFICATE**

I, Tom Hosler, 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 May 27, 2020.



Tom Hosler, Chairperson



Tony Podojil, Executive Director

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