

**ALLIANCE FOR HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION
COVID-19 Committee
Conference Call**

**September 1, 2020
10:00 A.M.
MEETING SUMMARY**

In attendance on phone conference: Tony Podojil, Jessica Voltolini, and member representatives from 51 school districts.

Tony Podojil convened the meeting by phone conference at 10:04 a.m.

State Health Requirements – COVID19

- K-12 Virus Reporting Systems for Schools
- Governor’s Performing Arts Order - Feedback

Once the Alliance receives a copy of the Governor’s Virus Reporting Order it will be sent to members. Districts hope to receive this information soon so that all reporting can be done according to the order and in coordination with each local health department.

There was no feedback on the Performing Arts Order.

ODE

- ODE Stakeholder Discussions
- Assessments – KRA, Third Grade Reading Guarantee

The testing waiver that was issued last year is under consideration in the General Assembly. The request for ODE to seek additional waivers is contained in SB358. Of most importance to districts as they open is how to administer the KRA and the Third-Grade reading Test if schools remain in an on-line format.

Legislation

- HB 606 - COVID Liability
- HB305 - School Funding
- SB358 - COVID Flexibility Extensions
- SB102 – Dyslexia Screening

HB606 – The House is meeting at 11am today. They are likely to vote to not concur with the Senate changes. They will then recess House session and immediately appoint members to the 606 Conference Committee. The Senate will do the same.

Update: The HB 606 Conference Committee met at noon and finalized negotiations on the COVID immunity bill, which provides liability protection to businesses amid the pandemic,

passed the legislation today after stripping the emergency clause and extending the protections in the bill through September 2021.

Jessica will send an update tomorrow after both the House and Senate vote on the Conference Committee report.

HB305 We are monitoring the progress of the school funding bill as it moves in the House. As we know, this is one of the Speakers priorities.

SB358 will have its first hearing tomorrow. The bill would extend the provisions in HB197 and HB154 thru the 20-21 school year. SB358 was introduced late last week by Sen Manning and Sen. Fedor. The Alliance, Education organizations and other education stakeholders will testify tomorrow. Jessica will send out a copy of our testimony later this afternoon.

In addition, extending the Board meeting provision allowing for electronic meetings is not included in this bill. We will be requesting it be added as an amendment, also, Ed Choice is part of this bill in terms of extending it through next year. We will be advocating that a solution be found prior to the start of the next application period.

SB102 has a hearing tomorrow and should pass out of the Senate. There is still a companion bill in the House that also deals with Dyslexia Screening. We would prefer the Senate version of the bill.

Masks and Religious Exemptions: Districts would like clarification on the mask exemption for students due to religious beliefs. How does this interact with the Governor's order and what issues does this raise in terms of the teacher's rights as far as students without a mask in the classroom?

OHSAA

- Compliance Rubric

Information on the compliance rubric was shared by members that had already been inspected. A copy was shared with members.

Next Conference Call:

The next call will be **September 15, 2020, at 10 AM by phone conference, if needed.**

The meeting adjourned at 10:55 a.m.