

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

January 26, 2022

Chairperson Jeff Brown called to order a regular meeting for the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:35 a.m. on January 26, 2022, in the BASA Conference Room located at 8050 N. High Street, Columbus, Ohio 43235. The Executive Committee also offered a video conference option due to health concerns related to the spread of Coronavirus.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Robert Scott	Avon Lake City School District (zoom)
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City Schools (zoom)
John Marschhausen	Dublin City Schools
Chad Hilliker	ESC of Hamilton County
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills School District
Andy Culp	Grandview Heights School District
Jeff Brown	Granville City Schools
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District (zoom)
Greg Sears	Kings Local School District
Steve Estapp	Mariemont City School District (zoom)
Mike Barnes	Mayfield City School District (zoom)
Bill Porter	Mentor Exempted Village School District (zoom)
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City School District (zoom)
Fred Bolden	Solon City School District
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City School District
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler City School District
Trent Bowers	Worthington City School District

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 October 2021 were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Scot Prebles moved, and Kathryn Powers seconded the approval of the minutes for October 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for October, November, and December 2021. Tony indicated that the budget continues to be on target as we moved into the second half of the fiscal year.

A copy of the financial reports was electronically distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Chad Hilliker moved, and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the fiscal report for the month of October, November, and December. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Off Year Audit

Tony informed; Hilliard (our fiscal agent) is in the process of conducting an off-year audit with the State. The state auditor office estimates the cost no more than 700.00

C. OEPI Membership

Tony recommended that we renew our membership again this year with OEPI.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Coronavirus Update

1. HB 169
 - a. Discretionary Funding
 - b. ESSER Funding Requirements – PPE Supplies
2. Regroup re: contract tracing requirements

HB169

HB169 became effective on December 23, 2021. HB169 provided for districts to receive a minimum funding level of \$1,000.00 per student as part of the set aside distribution for the ESSR II and III funds, The funding should be made distributed in March. It must be spent on ESSER items as currently defined. Information will be sent as it becomes available from the department.

Q: *Can we ask the question; can this money be spent, based on data, to catch up students due to loss during COVID because they may require help beyond a two-year time frame?*

Following the meeting. Tony was on a call with Aaron Rausch in which he clarified that while the Fed deadlines are not negotiable, although, a waiver request can be made to extend those deadlines. He felt it was premature to seek that waiver at the present time but could be done closer to the funding deadlines.

Regroup re: contract tracing requirements

Jessica was informed during our meeting that the Governor will provide an update today. That information would then be sent out to our members.

B. Legislative Update

1. Redistricting

Jessica will update once there is clarity and official maps of the new districts.

2. HB 126 Property Valuation Challenges and Ballot Language

This bill passed in the Senate before the holiday break, the house still needs to concur on the Senate amendment to the bill. Jessica will update as more information is available.

A letter from the Ohio Chamber of Commerce was shared by Jeff Brown in which the contents were in support of HB126 and highly critical of the district's role in the property valuation challenge process. The committee members agreed that we should reach out to the Chamber to discuss the rationale behind the letter and if we can clear up some of the misconceptions stated in the letter. Tony and Jessica will work on seeing if a meeting can be arranged as part of our next executive committee meeting.

3. HB 327 Prohibitions Related to Teaching Race Theory

Jessica will provide an update in February once the committees start meeting weekly again.

4. HB 529 Curriculum Transparency

Jessica would like to schedule a meeting with the two bill sponsors, Rep. Hillyer and Rep. Roemer. She would like to talk with them about what schools already have to do with respect to textbooks and what is already publicly available from school districts. HB 529 could take the place of the CRT bill.

5. SB 178 and HB 298 Education Governance/SBOE

These bills will be worked on to redefine the responsibilities of the State Board of Education, and the new State Superintendent and then figure out details with education policies. There will be ongoing changes regarding the roles of the State Superintendent and the SBOE, as they search for a new State Superintendent. Updates will be sent to members.

6. Teacher Shortages/Rep. Manning IP Meeting Update

Last week, Gail Manning brought together a group of interested parties to brainstorm ideas and is trying to find solutions for this issue. Jessica requested if you have an idea, please email them to her.

7. Tutoring/Sen. Brenner Legislation

Jessica will follow up on this issue. Sen. Brenner is very concerned about learning loss due to the tutoring issues. If you have a program that is working, please email Jessica.

C. ODE/State Board of Education

1. State Superintendent Search

The search process will continue to unfold in the coming months once the search firm has been selected.

2. State Report Card Rule Making Process -Update

The committee is meeting today, Jessica is watching very closely and will update as information is available. Once that is available, Tony and Jessica will put together a response on the behalf of the Alliance that then can be shared with the State Board as the enter full board deliberations in February.

3. Dyslexia Guidebook

Jessica will be reviewing and sending updates to all members.

D. Membership.

1. Regional Meetings

Tony suggested with the COVID issues still being a concern, he would like to continue the all-member conference calls/zoom meetings in place of the regional meetings.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on October 20, 2021, 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 January 28, 2022.

ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on October 20, 2021, 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 TBD.

OLD BUSINESS

A. Capital Conference - Review and Plans for next year (Costs/Location)

The Annual Luncheon held November 8, 2021, at the Hilton, was a success. We had 350 guests attend this year. Moving forward we may want to think about a new location due to the higher cost for the buffet/location.

NEW BUSINESS

Ice Miller Invite – DeWine/Husted (February 8)

Please email Jessica for more information/invite. Tony will be attending.

ADJOURNMENT


Chairperson Jeff Brown adjourned the meeting at 11:38 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for February 23, 2022, at BASA.

CERTIFICATE

I, Jeff Brown, 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 January 26, 2022.



Jeff Brown, Chairperson



Tony Podojil, Executive Director