

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

September 28, 2022

Chairperson Jeff Brown called to order an in-person and video conference meeting for the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 9:30 a.m. on September 28, 2022. The Executive Committee met in-person and by video conference 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
Scot Prebles	Bay Village City School District
Jason Fine	Bexley City School District
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City School District
Jeff Brown	Granville Ex. Village School District
Chad Hilliker	ESC of Hamilton County
Andy Culp	Grandview Heights School District
Greg Sears	Kings Local School District
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg exempted Village School District
Tom Burton	Princeton City School District
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River 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, Alliance Executive Director Tony Podojil.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Jeff Brown requested that the committee move into Executive Session to discuss a contract issue. Trent Bowers moved, and Scot Prebles seconded, that the committee move into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously.

The committee returned from Executive Session at 9:45 a.m.

MINUTES

Executive Committee meeting minutes from July 2022 were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Kathy Powers moved, and Brian Poe seconded the approval of the minutes for July 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for July and August of 2022. He mentioned dues payments were still being received with three members dropping due to financial hardship.

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

Scot Prebles moved, and Bob Scott seconded the approval of the fiscal report for the months of July and August 2022. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Bills That We Need to be Prepared to Discuss for Lame Duck Session

NOTE: There has not been any changes to the below since our last meeting. The General Assembly should return in November.

1. **HB 497—Third Grade Reading Guarantee**

The House has approved a major change to the Kasich-era third grade reading guarantee law via HB497. The bill would end the requirement that students who fall short of the promotion score on the third-grade English language arts test be retained in third grade. It also would cut administration of the third-grade test from twice to once per year. The legislation would maintain the requirement that schools test early elementary students for reading and provide intervention and remediation services to those who are reading below grade level.

2. **HB 151—Resident Educator/RESA**

The House also passed changes to the Ohio Teacher Residency Program, a four-year mentoring and professional development regimen for beginning teachers, via HB151 (Jones). Among other changes, the bill allows mentoring to happen both online and in person, prohibits placing a limit on how many times someone can try to pass the Resident Educator Summative Assessment (RESA), and cuts from four years to two the alternative resident educator license, available to people who did not complete a traditional teacher preparation program but met other educational requirements.

a. **Transgender Girls Participation Banning**

HB151's teacher residency provisions are now intertwined with a controversial proposal on barring transgender girls' participation in girls' sports. If a dispute arises on a participant's sex, they must establish their sex via a physician's statement that addresses their internal and external reproductive anatomy, their "normal endogenously produced levels of testosterone," and an analysis of their "genetic makeup." An amendment to include this sports language, previously proposed in HB61 (Powell-Stoltzfus) was added to the bill on the House floor.

3. **HB 616—CRT/" Don't Say Gay" Bill:**

This legislation was referred to the House State & Local Government Committee and had its first hearing/sponsor testimony on May 31.

4. **HB 529—Curriculum Transparency: First Hearing/Sponsor Testimony on 5/17/2022**

This legislation has had two hearings in House Education Committee

5. **HB 492 – Mental Health Training for Athletic Coaches**

Would require school sports coaches to undergo training on student mental health.

6. **HB 554 – Temporary Educator Licenses**

Would allow those with expired teacher licenses to apply for temporary licenses as a means to address teacher shortages

7. **HB606 – "Sarah's Law for Seizure Safe Schools."**

Would require schools to create a seizure action plan for each student with a seizure disorder and have at least one employee trained in implementing such plans.

8. **HB 333 – Counselor Job Description**

Would have ODE recommend a job description for school counselors, an attempt to help counselors get back to their core job duties and avoid reassignments to other administrative tasks.

9. HB639 – “Student Protection Act”

Would require each student who enters ninth grade on or after July 1, 2023, to complete self-defense instruction as part of the one-half unit of health instruction in order to qualify for a diploma.

B. Fair Funding Formula-State Budget

Tony shared several conversations he has had with members of the general assembly related to what we might expect when the next budget deliberations begin next year. Based on those conversations, it appears that there is some support for continuing the funding formula phase in through the next biennium. The complexities related to changing formulas, as revealed in the latest iteration along with a need to see how the provisions of this method actually play out, should provide the support to continue on the present course.

The recent property reevaluations that have occurred and the levels of increases (20 – 35% in some areas), will have a profound impact on the formula since property value wealth is directly tied to the state aid equation. Without a corresponding increase in the pupil allocation, state share will fall for those districts impacted by the reevaluation. Discussions are occurring related to developing some guard rails on both sides of the ledger, per pupil increases tied to teacher salary and significant shifts in property and/or income wealth.

In addition to the above, Tony noted that we will continue to need to advocate for an increase in the minimum funding level from its current base of 5%. With the phase in proceeding as scheduled, the guarantees built into that phase in will eventually be phased out leaving districts with actual calculations.

This concept also applies to our members ability to participate in the OFFC program since the minimum level of participation is also set at 5% rendering participation in the program beyond the reach of a majority of our members.

C. ODE/State Board of Education

1. Priorities:

- a. Literacy
- b. Accelerated Learning
- c. Workforce Readiness
- d. Student Wellness

2. Report Cards

Tony asked the committee for feedback on the new report cards. Members agreed that Stars are better than grades but would still like to see improvement on literacy measures.

D. Membership

1. 2022/2023 Membership - update

Membership dues are still being received. Brooklyn, Olentangy and Richmond Heights have not renewed membership due to financial concerns. Cuyahoga Falls is considering membership, we are waiting to hear from them.

2. Luncheon Fee Increase and Location

The committee discussed and approved the increase for the annual buffet from 35.00 to 40.00 per person due to the increase in cost by the Hilton. Tony explained the new location in the Hilton’s expansion and directions to the new location of the ballroom. Tony also mentioned our guest speakers will be from the Ohio Department of Education, Stephanie Siddens, Interim State Superintendent of Public Instruction and Jessica Voltolini, Chief of Staff.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

The next meeting will be held September 30, 2022.

ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

The Accountability Committee meetings will continue to be held with the Legislative Committee meetings until further notice.

The next meeting is TBD.

OLD BUSINESS

A. School Levy Litigation

Tony informed the committee that this topic will not be heard until February.

NEW BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section

ADJOURNMENT

Vice-Chairperson Trent Bowers adjourned the meeting at 11:05 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for October 26, 2022, at BASA's office and via Zoom.

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 September 28, 2022.



Jeff Brown, Chairperson



Tony Podojil, Executive Director