

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

May 24, 2023

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 May 24, 2023, 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
Scot Prebles	Bay Village City School District
Jason Finc	Bexley City School District
Mike Hanlon	Chardon Local School District
Brian Poe	Copley-Fairlawn City School District
John Marschhausen	Dublin City School District
Chad Hilliker	ESC of Hamilton County
Andy Culp	Grandview Heights School District
Mike Barnes	Mayfield City School District
Thomas Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village School District
Tom Burton	Princeton City School District
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City School District
Fred Bolden	Solon City School District
Kathy 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, William Schwartz representing The WRS Group LLC, and guest Paul Imhoff with BASA.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

No Executive Session was held.

MINUTES

Executive Committee meeting minutes from April 26, 2023, were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Trent Bowers moved, and Mike Hanlon seconded the approval of the minutes for April 26, 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for April 2023. He indicated that we remain on target in terms of revenue and expenditures for the year.

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

John Marschhausen moved, and Andy Culp seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for April 2023. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Budget 2023/2024

The proposed budget for 2023/2024 was reviewed during this meeting and will be presented for further deliberations and approval in the June meeting. Tony pointed out that the projected 23-24 budget is projected on 72 dues paying members. That revenue along with projected expenses will maintain our present operating budget as

well as maintaining the required six-month cash reserves for operating and three months for special projects. Those projections are based on a monthly budget spend of \$25,000.

C. **PAC Account**

Tony reminded the committee that the support from the contributions made to the Alliance PAC helps to maintain the Alliance's visibility at the Statehouse, the Governor's Office, and Cabinet. Members were reminded that donations must be individual donations.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. **Major Bills Under Consideration:**

1. **Budget**

a. **HB 33 (Edwards) Main Operating Budget (Budget Bill)**

- **Minimum Floor Percentage – Senate**
- **Transportation**
- **Vouchers, open enrollment, ESCs**

The Senate Finance Committee held hearings this week on the biennial budget bill, HB33, delving into specific topic areas, including higher education, workforce, agriculture, and tax issues. Education issues will be heard at the May 31 hearing. Senate leadership and committee chairs are reviewing submitted budget amendments with a Senate substitute version to be released on or about June 6. Amendments for the Senate's second round of changes are due June 9, and a full Senate vote is expected June 15.

2. **Choice**

a. **SB11 (O'Brien) Universal eligibility of Ed Choice Scholarships (Parent Educational Freedom**

Act)

This bill that would make eligible all non-public K-12 students and incoming kindergartners for an EdChoice voucher regardless of their income or residence. The last hearing on the bill was March 7. The Senate is anticipating making changes to the EdChoice program in its Senate sub bill budget proposal, to be released on June 6.

b. **HB 11 (McClain/John) Creates the Backpack Scholarship Program (the Backpack Bill)**

Despite being a House priority bill, HB 11 is not expected to clear the chamber. The House did expand Ed Choice voucher eligibility to 450% of the federal poverty level.

3. **SBOE/ODE**

a. **SB 1 (Reineke) Reform function, responsibilities, accountability of state education office to emphasize education, workforce development.**

SB 1 is still pending in the House Economic and Workforce Development Committee. The Senate is expected to include this bill in its budget proposal on June 6.

b. **HB 12 (Jones/Dobos) Reform function, responsibilities, accountability of state education office to emphasize education, workforce development.**

The House companion bill to SB 1 is still pending in the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee. The Senate is expected to include this bill in its budget proposal on June 6.

4. **Other Bills Under Consideration**

a. **HB 8 (Swearingen/Carruthers) Parental notification on student health and well-being and instructional materials with sexually explicit content (Parent's Bill of Rights)**

Despite being a House priority bill, HB 8 was not included in the House's budget proposal. Nevertheless, the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee continues to hold hearings on the bill.

b. **SB 47 (S. Huffman) Prohibition on public employee compensation for political and lobbying activities**
No hearings to date have been scheduled on the legislation.

c. **SB 104 (Cirino/Brenner) College Credit Plus**

No hearings to date have been scheduled on the legislation.

d. **SJR 2 (McColley/Gavarone) Increase threshold to 60% for constitutional amendments.**

The joint resolution was enacted in early May and will be placed before voters at the Aug. 8 special election, pending the results of a lawsuit challenging the legality of placing the constitutional question at that election rather than the November general election.

B. ODE/State Board of Education

1. Update on selection of interim state superintendent

Chris Woolard was selected interim Superintendent of Public Instruction and will succeed outgoing interim state superintendent Stephanie Siddens on July 1.

C. Membership

Dues have been emailed to members and we have begun to receive payments.

LEGISLATIVE / ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The next meeting will be held June 9, 2023, at 10 a.m. via Zoom.

OLD BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section.

NEW BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section.

ADJOURNMENT

Chairperson Jeff Brown adjourned the meeting at 10:56 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2023, at the BASA Office and via Zoom invite.

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 May 24, 2023.



Jeff Brown, Chairperson



Tony Podojil, Executive Director