

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

May 26, 2021

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 26, 2021. The Executive Committee met by video conference due to 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
Scot Prebles	Forest Hills School District
Jeff Brown	Granville Exempted Village School District
Nancy Santilli	Kenston Local School District
Tim Ackermann	Kings Local School District
Steve Estep	Mariemont City School District
Mike Zalar	North Olmsted City School District
Michael Shoaf	Rocky River City School District
Fred Bolden	Solon City School District
Kathryn Powers	Twinsburg City School District
Rob O'Leary	Vandalia-Butler 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 April 2021 were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Nancy Santilli moved, and Brian Poe seconded the approval of the minutes for April 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report/ 2021-22 Budget

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for April. Tony indicated that the budget remains on target in terms of revenue and expenditures for the year. Tony presented the proposed budget for 2021-22 that was under consideration for approval.

A copy of the financial report and proposed budget were electronically distributed to members prior to the meeting.

Robert Scott moved, and Scot Prebles seconded the approval of the fiscal report for the month of April. The motion passed unanimously.

Mike Zalar moved, and Tim Ackermann seconded the approval of the budget for 2021-22. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Coronavirus Update

1. **ESSR III Application/ODE's Plan for American Recovery Plan Act Funding**
2. **June 2 Expiration of COVID Health Orders**

Tony asked members if they would share any issues regarding the June 2 expiration of the COVID orders. Some districts are asking students to remain masked during summer school and other districts, only in a situation where they cannot maintain social distancing would students be required to mask. Some other districts are dropping all mask orders on June 2nd and others will follow masked until next fall, making any changes based on the recommendations of the ODH for fall.

B. Legislative Update

1. **HB 110 – Biennial Budget – What we know about the Senate and Senate timeline**
 - A. **June 1 Senate Substitute HB 110**
 - B. **June 8-10 Senate Omnibus Amendments and Senate Vote on HB 110**

Jessica shared that it appears that the Seante will release their version of the budget (Senate Sub bill) next week, as early as June 1. Amendments are due by June 4. The omnibus bill is due on June 8 and a final budget vote to occur on June 9 or 10.

2. **SB1 – Financial Literacy**

Item was not discussed. Update – the bill has passed the Seante and is now under consideration in the House.

3. **HB 200/SB 145 – Report Card Reform**

There is a possibility that SB145 will be included in the budget on the Senate side although the Seante President has said publicly that the bill should be voted out in a standalone version.

We continue to work with both the Senate (Senator Brenner, SB145) and House (Jones/Robinson, HB 200) and with other interested parties. We are waiting to hear if there will be a meeting scheduled to work through the differences between the bills and have something out.

4. **SB 111/HB 170 – Federal Funding**

HB 170 and SB 111 which deals with the Federal COVID money for schools' bill should pass by the beginning of June.

HB170 will be a vehicle on ODE's use of the COVID funding. ODE will submit an APR plan by June 7th with the proposed spending plan for the American Recovery Funds.

Jessica will reach out to the ODE for clarification on how funds will be spent but it seems the Senate can spend 125 million, the House can spend 125 million and ODE will have 125 million to spend. The Senate plans to spend the money on Educational Savings Accounts.

5. **Critical Race Theory legislation**

There were two bills proposed in the House, HB 322 (Rep. Jones) and HB 327 (Rep, Grendell/ Rep. Fowler Arthur) dealing with proposing restrictions related to the teaching of

Critical Race Theory in schools. Jessica will send a summary of these two bills to members later today or tomorrow.

Senator Cirino and Senator Schaffer have also submitted on the Senate side an amendment that would prohibit teaching CRT that they are considering as inclusion in the budget bill.

CRT is becoming a major issue due to the political ramifications of the issue and the amount of misinformation that is circulating. Funding may be impacted in that CRT is being linked to discussion of the school budget.

Hearings will certainly be held on CRT following the budget deliberations and should be a topic in the education committees in the Fall. Jessica will keep members posted as more information becomes available.

Members suggested including our business stakeholders and education organizations in meetings to begin conversations on this topic in order that an appropriate response can be formulated when addressing the General Assembly as well as when discussing this with our boards and communities.

6. HB 298/SB 178 – SBOE

The committee tabled the discussions on 298/178 for inclusion on the June agenda.

7. HB 73 – Testing Reduction

The committee tabled the discussions on 73 for inclusion on the June agenda.

C. ODE/State Board of Education

No updates to report.

D. Membership.

1. Executive Committee Member Changes (North, Central, Southern)

Tony stated we will have several Executive Committee changes due to superintendents retiring or changing locations. Tony asked members to send suggestions for candidates to be discussed at the July meeting.

LEGISLATIVE / SYSTEM IMPROVEMENTS COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on May 19, 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 June 16, 2021.

ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE

A summary of the meeting held on May 19, 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 June 16, 2021.

OLD BUSINESS

No business discussed in this section.

NEW BUSINESS

ESSER II and ESSER III Fund Estimation and Calculation Error Corrections.

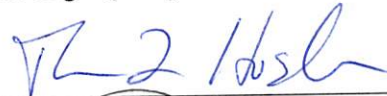
Tom Hosler shared information on the ESSER II and ESSER III issues that are affecting several Alliance districts. He shared that the funding was thought to be allocated based on the districts Title One percent, however it is based on the US Census Bureau's 2018 school district's estimates of how many children are living in poverty in the district's community. He then shared spreadsheets to show comparison of the calculations for some districts. Tom sent the information that was discussed in the meeting to the Executive Committee for review and further discussion. The Alliance members voted to have a more vocal role in the changes needed with the funding. Tom will keep members posted.

ADJOURNMENT

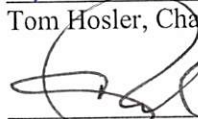
Chairperson Tom Hosler adjourned the meeting at 11:00 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 23, 2021, at 9:30 a.m. by Zoom Conference Invite.

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 26, 2021.



Tom Hosler, Chairperson



Tony Podofil, Executive Director