

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

May 22, 2024

Chairperson Jeff Brown called to order a video conference and in person meeting for the Executive Committee of the Alliance for High Quality Education in the BASA conference room located at 8050 North High St. Columbus Ohio, at 9:30 a.m. on May 22, 2024.

Those members in attendance from the Executive Committee were:

Scot Prebles	Bay Village City School District
Chad Hilliker	ESC of Hamilton County
Andy Culp	Grandview Heights School District
Steve Estep	Mariemont City School District
Jonathan Cooper	Mason City School District
Mike Barnes	Mayfield City School District
Tom Hosler	Perrysburg Exempted Village 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
Scott Goggin	Westlake City School District
Trent Bowers	Worthington School District

Also, present, Alliance Executive Director Tony Podojil, and William Schwartz, Legislative Consultant.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Chairperson Jeff Brown requested at 9:33a.m. that the committee move into Executive Session to discuss a personnel concern. Chad Hilliker moved, and Trent Bowers seconded, that the committee move into Executive Session. The motion passed unanimously. Executive Session ended at 9:39 am and the regular meeting continued.

MINUTES

Executive Committee meeting minutes from April 2024, were electronically distributed to members prior to this meeting for their review.

Chad Hilliker moved, and Fred Bolden seconded the approval of the minutes for April 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

FINANCIAL REPORT

A. Fiscal Report

Tony Podojil provided a summary of the financial activity for April 2024. 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.

Jonathan Cooper moved, and Scott Prebles seconded the approval of the fiscal reports for April 2024. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Executive Director's Contract

The contract renewal for the Executive Director was discussed and approved during this meeting. A copy was provided to members prior to the meeting.

Trent Bowers moved, and Andy Culp seconded the approval of the contract renewal. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Budget 2024/2025

The proposed budget for 2024/2025 was reviewed and discussed during this meeting. Tony pointed out that the projected 24-25 budget is based 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.

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

Trent Bowers moved, and Andy Culp seconded the approval of the 2024/2025 Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

A. Major Bills of Concern to Membership:

a. HB 2- Capital Appropriations Bill (House)

The Senate has not yet acted on any capital appropriations measure except for HB 27 when it sent a partial capital budget measure to the House. Senate Finance Committee Chairman Matt Dolan is still reviewing capital budget requests and a package is expected to be unveiled in the beginning of June.

b. HB 27 – Capital Appropriations Bill (Senate)

The Senate in February sent HB 27 to the House with partial capital budget spending, including \$600 million in school facilities funding via the Ohio Facilities Construction Commission. This action appears in response to the House's passage of HB 2, to which the Senate via Senate President publicly objected. Chairman Dolan is likely to unveil the Senate's capital spending and One-Time Strategic Community Investments Fund spending in early June.

c. HB 8 – Parents Bill of Rights

The bill is still pending a committee vote in the Senate. It is possible the bill will be passed in the final weeks of June before the summer recess.

d. HB 50- Residential Property Tax Exemption

This bill was signed into law by Gov. DeWine

e. HB 70 – Required Policy on OTC Drugs

The bill was passed by the Senate and is expected to receive a first hearing for sponsor testimony in early June.

f. HB 183 - The Bathroom Bill

The bill was passed out of the House Higher Education Committee on April 10. A House vote is possible and could occur before the summer recess.

g. HB 230 - Required Instruction in Fentanyl Education

The bill passed the House and is now pending in the Senate.

h. HB 250 – Military Diploma Seal and Cell Phone Policy

Gov. DeWine signed the bill into law in May.

i. HB 339 – Education Savings Accounts

The bill is still pending in the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee and is awaiting a third hearing for all testimony, which could occur before the summer recess.

j. HB 344 - Replacement Levies and Property Tax Complaints

The bill passed the House Ways and Means Committee and is pending a full House vote in June.

k. HB 407- Private School Accountability and Transparency

The bill received sponsor testimony and is expected to receive proponent testimony in late May with additional hearings in June.

l. HB 432 – Career-Technical Educator License Flexibility

The bill is set to pass the House at its next meeting in June.

m. HB 445- Required Religious Release Time Policy

The bill received sponsor testimony in the House but has yet to receive another hearing for proponent testimony. It is likely to receive another hearing in June.

- n. SB 29 - Student Technology Records The bill received sponsor testimony in the House but is still pending a second hearing in House committee.
- o. SB 168 – Deregulation and Flexibility
The bill received proponent testimony from the Alliance and other statewide education associations. Several additional hearings on this bill are expected with at least one hearing devoted to accepting amendments on various provisions in the bill.
- p. SB 205- Drug Prevention Education
The bill was amended in Senate committee last week and awaits a fourth hearing and vote in the committee, which is expected before the summer recess.
- q. SB 208 – Open Enrollment for Military Children
The bill is set for a Senate vote at the chamber’s next meeting.

B. DEW/State Board of Education

- a. Transportation rules
Rules comment for transportation rules closed in May.
- b. Ohio AI Taskforce
Tony was invited to participate in the first of several meetings of the Ohio AI Taskforce, beginning May 14. The taskforce is created by DEW, Lt. Gov. Jon Husted, and Ohio Excels.

C. Other Issues

- a. Joint Committee on Property Tax Review and Reform
The committee held its final meeting for public testimony in May. Next steps are not yet known. A report with recommendations is due December 31, 2024.
- b. New House committee chairs
Rep. Gayle Manning is the new chair of the House Primary and Secondary Education Committee, replacing ousted Rep. Adam Bird.
- c. House Bill 68 Lawsuit
A Franklin County Common Pleas Court judge is expected to decide on a preliminary injunction in July in the lawsuit on the legislation.
- d. USDOE Title IX Regulations and Related Litigation
Several states, including Ohio, have filed lawsuits challenging the Biden Administration’s new Title IX regulations.
- e. STRS

D. Membership

- a. 2024 – 25 Fees Request were sent
Dues invoices were sent in May, payments are being received.
- b. OEPI Invoice
This invoice was discussed and approved for payment.

LEGISLATIVE / ACCOUNTABILITY COMMITTEE REPORT

The next meeting will be held May 24, 2024, 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 11:14 a.m. The next meeting is scheduled for June 26, 2024, 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 22, 2024.



Jeff Brown, Chairperson



Tony Podojil, Executive Director