

**Alliance for High Quality Education
Legislative/System Improvements Committee**

Zoom Meeting Summary
Friday, October 25, 2024
10:00 a.m.

In attendance on video conference: Executive Director Tony Podojil and Legislative Consultant William Schwartz and member representatives from 40 school districts.

Tony convened the meeting at 10:00 a.m. The primary focus of the meeting was to update Alliance members regarding the most recent legislative activity listed below:

I. MAJOR BILLS UNDER CONSIDERATION

- a. HB 8 Parents Bill of Rights
The bill is still pending a committee vote in the Senate. The Senate Education Committee amended the bill prior to summer recess and is expected to pass the bill in the lame duck legislative session.
- b. HB 206 Student Expulsion Policies
There is a chance the House could move this bill to the Senate in lame duck. The bill is awaiting a House vote.
- c. HB 230- Required Instruction in Fentanyl Education
The bill passed the House and is now pending in the Senate.
- d. HB 407 – Private School Accountability and Transparency
The bill has received three hearings in the House and is pending a committee vote. It is likely to undergo modifications at the request of Republican committee members.
- e. HB 432 – Career-Technical Educator License Flexibility
The bill passed the House in June and received a first hearing in the Senate on June 26. A second hearing is likely to take place in November, and the bill has potential for passage in lame duck.
- f. HB 445 – Required Religious Release Time Policy
The bill received sponsor and proponent testimony in the House. It has yet to receive a third hearing for opponent testimony. A third hearing could occur in November or December. There is intense interest among majority party members to enact this in lame duck or through the budget process.
- g. SB 29 Student Technology Records
The bill was signed by Gov. DeWine on June 26. Revisions to the law are expected in lame duck.
- h. SB 104 CCP and the Bathroom Bill
The bill was amended on the House floor to include the provisions of HB 183 – the Bathroom Bill. It is likely to be passed by the legislature and signed into law in lame duck.

II. RECENTLY INTRODUCED BILLS

- a. HB 659 (Mathews/Lorenz) Water Safety Education

III. DEW/STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

- a. DEW Budget Priorities
DEW will continue its investments in literacy improvement. They are likely to propose career planning, computer science education, and principal apprenticeship programs.
- b. Controlling Board Appropriation
The State Board of Education received \$4.66 million from the State Controlling Board, filling its multi-million-dollar budget shortfall.

VI. OTHER ISSUES

- a. STRS
The entity continues to be the subject of controversy as consulting entities terminate their agreements, members resign, and the panel is without a permanent leader.

V. NEXT MEETING

The next meeting is TBD.

The meeting adjourned at 10:45 a.m.