

**ALLIANCE FOR
HIGH QUALITY EDUCATION
ANNUAL MEMBERSHIP
MEETING MINUTES**

November 11, 2024

Chairman Jeff Brown, Superintendent of Granville Exempted Village School District, called to order the Annual Meeting of the General Membership of the Alliance for High Quality Education at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, November 11, 2024, in the Kojo Kamau Junior Ballroom of the Hilton Columbus Downtown Hotel-Convention Center, 402 N. High St., Columbus, Ohio 43215.

Fifty-two member districts were represented, and a quorum was reached.

MINUTES / FISCAL REPORTS

Tom Hosler moved, and Scot Prebles seconded a motion to approve the minutes of the annual meeting held on November 13, 2023, as submitted. The motion was adopted.

Tom Hosler moved, and Fred Bolden seconded a motion to approve and accept the fiscal report for FY2023 as submitted. The motion was adopted.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Executive Director Dr. Anthony Podojil addressed the gathering by recapping the highlights and the major activities of the Alliance over the last year in the following areas:

Membership / Budget – Our current membership is 73 districts. That level of membership will allow our budget to remain stable and solvent, while fully meeting the needs of a larger, very dynamic organization. Dr. Podojil thanked the members for their support.

Committees – In addition to the regular monthly meetings of the Executive Committee, the legislative committee meeting has been meeting monthly by zoom and is open for all members to attend and participate. Attendance has been broader and more inclusive using this meeting technique allowing for our members to stay current and informed on legislative topics. Such as school funding, property valuation challenges, attendance and other issues that affect our membership districts.

Legislative – The Alliance continues to pursue member initiatives using a variety of strategies including developing and advocating our own positions on selected topics, working with the educational organizations on common issues and concerns, and keeping open lines of communication with stakeholders outside of the educational community.

We have maintained close contacts with key members of the Senate and Education, concentrating our efforts with both the House and Senate Education Committees by providing testimony when necessary and meeting with their staff to offer feedback and solutions to a myriad of topics under consideration. As we look forward to next year, we will continue to work on the General Assembly and the new Department of Education and Workforce as they implement the second phase of the school funding plan, capital budget and OFFC access as well as bills seeking to change the property valuation review and taxation process.

ODEW – The Alliance continues to work to maintain open lines of communication with department leadership as they transition to a state level agency under the Governor.

Advocacy – Dr. Podojil expressed appreciation for the partnerships and working relationships the Alliance has maintained over the last year with educational stakeholders, many of which attended the annual meeting. The organization maintains the position of a willingness to work with all education stakeholders to advocate for organizational members and the positions which are unique to our schools. He encouraged all members to continue with their advocacy at the local level and work to maintain open lines of communication with the legislative representatives.

Quality Profile – The Quality Profile remains a key document for informing our communities on what we are doing in terms of meeting student needs. District participation in the Quality Profile continues, both among Alliance member districts, and non-Alliance members with approximately 50 school districts that participated this year, releasing a profile in September with several other districts releasing profiles during other months of the year.

PANEL PRESENTATION

William Schwartz facilitated the legislative panel discussion, with two distinguished guests, The Honorable Andrew O. Brenner, Senate District 19 Chair, Senate Education Committee and The Honorable Gayle Manning, House District 52 Chair, House Primary and Secondary Education Committee.

Our guests responded to a variety of questions regarding property valuations, attendance, literacy, transportation, athletic tickets, and deregulation.

OLD BUSINESS

No old business items came before the membership.

NEW BUSINESS

No new business items came before the membership.

SUMMARY / REMARKS

Jeff Brown closed the meeting by thanking those in attendance for their support.

ADJOURNMENT


Chairman Jeff Brown adjourned the meeting at 1:00 p.m.

CERTIFICATE

We, Jeff Brown, Chair of the Alliance for High Quality Education, and Trent Bowers, Vice-Chair, hereby certify that the foregoing is a true copy of the Minutes of the Meeting of the Members of the Alliance for High Quality Education held November 11, 2024.



Jeff Brown, Chair



Trent Bowers, Vice-Chair