

# You've Been Elected, Now What?



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association of  
**ALASKA**  
school boards

**Congratulations on being elected or appointed to your local school board!**



**We applaud your willingness to dedicate yourself to serve the students in your communities.**



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**As a new board member,  
where do I start?**

**What do I need to know?**

# Turn to a neighbor and share:

Think about the first school board meeting you attended (as a school board member).

- How did you feel?
- What was it like?



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# Prepare for life in the “public eye”!

**Begin a transition to your new role:**

**Board Candidate → Board Member**

**Private Citizen → Public Official**

**Individual Action → Team Action**



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# What do school boards do?

1. Hire and evaluate the **superintendent** – your only employee!
2. Set and approve the **district budget**
3. Review and adopt **curriculum**
4. Develop and adopt **policies** to govern the district



# Board Standards

- **Vision:** The Board creates a shared vision to enhance student achievement.
- **Structure:** The Board provides a structure that supports the vision.
- **Accountability:** The Board measures district performance toward accomplishing the vision and reports the results to the public.
- **Advocacy:** The Board champions the vision.
- **Conduct & Ethics:** The Board and its individual members conduct district business in a fair, respectful, and responsible manner.



**BOARD  
STANDARDS**  
A FRAMEWORK FOR ALASKA SCHOOL BOARDS



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# Begin with Orientation



New member orientation –  
*ask your Superintendent  
and Board President!*

[AASB](#) provides training:

- Ready, Set, Govern!
- First Year Board Member webinar series
- Boardsmanship Academies



# Be Prepared – the public is watching!

- **Read** material **BEFORE** meetings
- **Take notes**
- **Ask questions**
- **Listen**
- **Learn how meetings work**
  - Study **Parliamentary Procedures**  
ex. Roberts Rules of Orders  
([ex.www.jurassicparliament.com](http://ex.www.jurassicparliament.com))



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# Personal Agendas

- Realize that they are a **waste of time**
- **Perspective** versus agenda
- You are now a member of a **team!**
- **Listen and learn from others**
- **Be patient, think of the whole**



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# Listen



- **Be professional**
- **Listen to all sides of an issue**
- **Be aware of district policies on issues.**
- **Don't make promises that "something will get done."**



# You CAN and WILL make a difference!

- Take the time to **learn about your new job**
- **Learn about your district**
- Be **patient**
- **Enjoy** your new role in the community, it will make a difference for kids.

