Onboarding New School Board Members

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What’s the Weather Tomorrow?
How Accurate is your Forecast

Individual to TEAM

The strength of the team is each individual member... the strength of each member is the team.

- Coach Phil Jackson, Chicago Bulls
Adult Learning Research

Help Develop Background Knowledge
LOCAL New Member Orientation

- Reduces time for board to regain previous level of performance from 12 months to 3-6 months!

Let’s Talk
- Basic information
- Documents
- Meeting with Superintendent
- Contacts and contact information
- Meeting with the Board chair
- Board Governance

Possible Documents
- Mission, Vision, Core Beliefs
- Strategic Plan
- Link to Policy Manual
- Board and Superintendent Roles and Responsibilities
- What Every New Board Member Needs to Know
- Superintendents Contract
- Negotiated Agreements
- Board Standards
What’s In Your Bylaws?

- 9000 – Powers Purposes and Duties
- 9200 – Board Members
- 9270 – Conflict of Interest
- 9271 - Code of Ethics
- 9320 – Meetings
- 9400 – Board Self Evaluation

What if something is not in your Policies or Bylaws?
Keys to Orientation

• Purposeful
• Led by Board chair and Superintendent and possibly committee
• Addresses new tasks and new relationships
• Incremental

QUESTIONS!!!

• What do you wish you would have known early in your School Board career?
• What key information do new School Board members need?
• When do they need to know?
• Who should provide such information?