

Board Leadership

Planning Your Year of Governance

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PURPOSE OF SCHOOL BOARDS

To provide local leadership, **governance**, and accountability for public education by ensuring that schools reflect community expectations and needs, make the best use of available resources, and advocate for the needs of children.



Alaska's Board Standards

Vision

Structure

Accountability

Advocacy

Conduct & Ethics



Alaska's Board Standards

Structure

Accountability



Think about your year...

As a Board, what must you do each year?

Turn to an elbow partner and discuss this question.

You have 2 minutes



4 things school boards must do:

- **Hire & evaluate the superintendent**
- **Set and approve the district budget**
- **Review and adopt curriculum**
- **Develop and adopt policy**



How will you get what you need done?



7 Habits of Highly Effective People Boards

1. **Be Proactive**
2. **Begin with the end in Mind**
3. **Put First Things First**
4. **Think Win-Win**
5. **Seek to Understand, Then Be Understood**
6. **Synergize**
7. **Sharpen the Saw**

** From Stephen R. Covey*



7 Habits of Highly Effective People Boards

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1. Be Proactive

Plan your governance year – calendar events

1. Board self-evaluation and goal setting
2. Policy review – how and when
3. Superintendent evaluation
4. Budget process
5. Curriculum Review
6. Advocacy (local, state, national)
7. Opportunities to review & discuss student success



1. Be Proactive

Plan your governance year – calendar events

Do you have a specific board goal to achieve?

What about your strategic plan?



2. Begin With The End In Mind

What is your desired outcome?



2. Begin With The End In Mind

Examples:

Board self-evaluation and goals?

- Better communication & understanding
- A clear focus
- Expectations
- Create a positive board culture



2. Begin With The End In Mind

Examples:

Superintendent Evaluation

- Known process and expectations
- Timeliness
- Better communication & understanding
- Improved Board-superintendent relationship
- Leadership retention
- Improved student outcomes



2. Begin With The End In Mind

Examples:

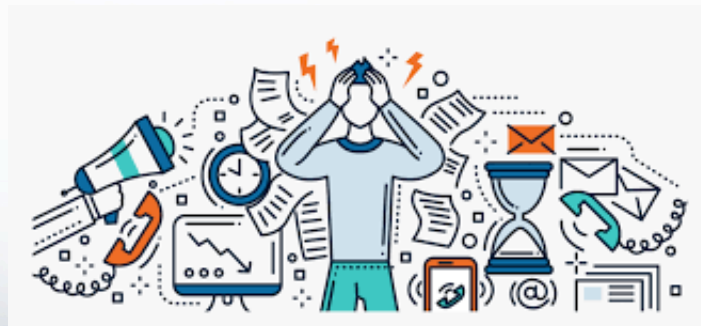
Budget approval

- Known process and expectations
- Timeliness
- Stakeholder engagement and support
- Supports your strategic plan
- *Supports Improved student outcomes!*



3. Put First Things First

We continually battle chaos!



3. Put First Things First

The crisis of the next crisis!



3. Put First Things First

Creating a Board calendar helps avoid succumbing to crisis and chaos.

Creating a schedule leads to expectations

Sticking to the schedule builds confidence and reliability



Creating order – when & how



Creating order – when & how

At your table, take 5 minutes to discuss what your Board does to create order and address the 4 **5** things you must do.

- Hire or evaluate the superintendent
- Set and approve the district budget
- Review and adopt curriculum
- Develop and adopt policy
- **Board self-evaluation & goals**



Creating order – when & how

Hire or evaluate the superintendent

Recommendations:

- ✓ Evaluations – Complete by March if possible for the previous year
- ✓ Hire – January through May – peak recruiting is January-early March



Creating order – when & how

Set and approve the district budget

Recommendations:

- ✓ Organized areas – start in December conclude in April or May - depends
- ✓ REAA– January through May – Due to DEED by July 1
- ✓ Provide stakeholder opportunities
- ✓ Take ownership – know your budget, it belongs to the Board



Creating order – when & how

Review and adopt curriculum

Recommendations:

- ✓ All year
- ✓ Rotate subject areas– refer to policy
- ✓ Requires expertise – the Board will need input from your educational professionals
- ✓ Provide stakeholder opportunities
- ✓ Utilize committees



Creating order – when & how

Develop and adopt policy

Recommendations:

- ✓ All year
- ✓ Rotate through policy sections – refer to policy
- ✓ Committees are great! – you don't have to do this on your own
- ✓ Provide stakeholder opportunities
- ✓ AASB Policy updates (several per year)
 - Statutes & regulation
 - Best practices



Creating order – when & how

Board self-evaluation & goals

Recommendations:

- ✓ When- late spring, early fall or anytime
- ✓ Facilitated – it is very hard to do this effectively on your own
- ✓ Create your own accountability (Board standards)
- ✓ Establish goals – focus your work, hold yourselves accountable
- ✓ Student centered work



How can AASB Help?

Services:

- Board Workshops – Timi, Tiffany, Jenni
- Strategic Planning – Timi
- Policy Services – Tiffany & Lon
 - Updates, Policy Online, Audits, Policy development
- Facilitated Superintendent Evaluations – Dave Herbert
- Superintendent Searches – JoAnn Bukovich, Timi, Tiffany, Lon

