

***Board Standards***  
**A**  
**Framework**  
**for**  
**Alaska's School Boards**

# For more information

<https://aasb.org/bd-standards/>



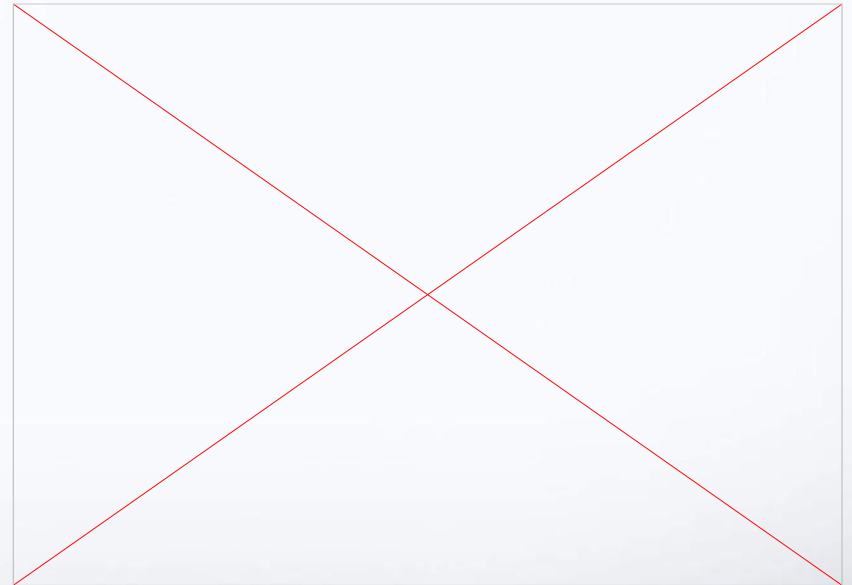
# SCHOOL BOARD

A democratically elected body that represents public ownership of schools **through governance** while serving as a bridge between public values and professional expertise



# 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**

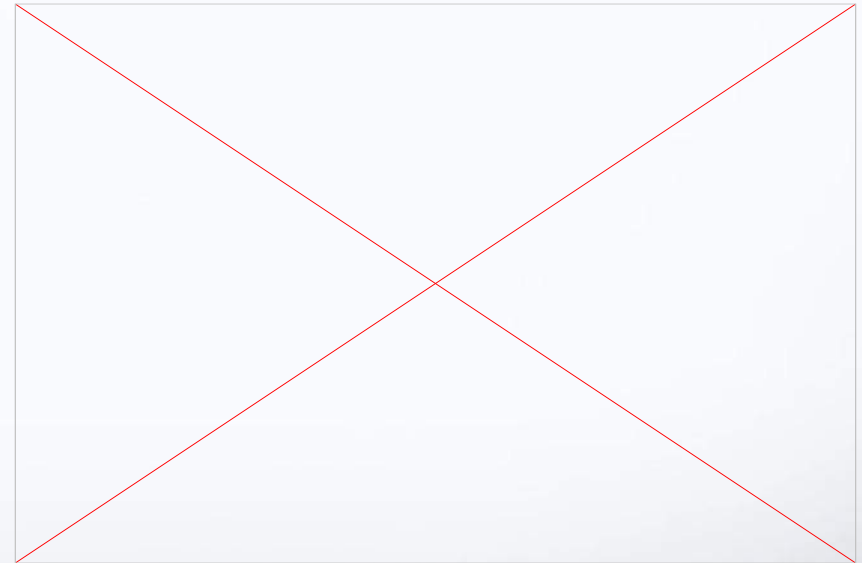
**Conduct & Ethics**

# Making Board Standards Work

- **Training**
- **Board Self Assessment**
- **Superintendent/Executive Director Evaluation**
- **Annual Conference/Academies Tracks**

# VISION

**The board creates  
a shared vision to  
enhance student  
achievement**



# Craig City School District

## Vision

Our students will be compassionate, resilient, self-sufficient, engaged members of their community.

# Bering Strait School District

## Vision

All students are thriving and contributing culturally ~ locally ~ globally.



# Craig City School District

## Our Mission:

- CCSD will establish a community of learning that empowers the whole child to embrace life-long learning & a growth mindset

# Bering Strait School District

## Our Mission:

- Achieving excellence by nurturing the whole student in a culturally based learning community that is safe and supportive.



# The Board develops a dynamic shared vision for education that reflects student needs and community priorities.

- How do I make the community feel welcome to the board process?
- Do individuals feel comfortable enough to approach me with concerns?
- How do I share the vision with the community?

# The Board keeps the district and community focused on educating students

- Do I, as an individual, really have the vision?
- Do I talk to others in my community about the vision?
- Do I always ask the question, “Is it good for kids”?

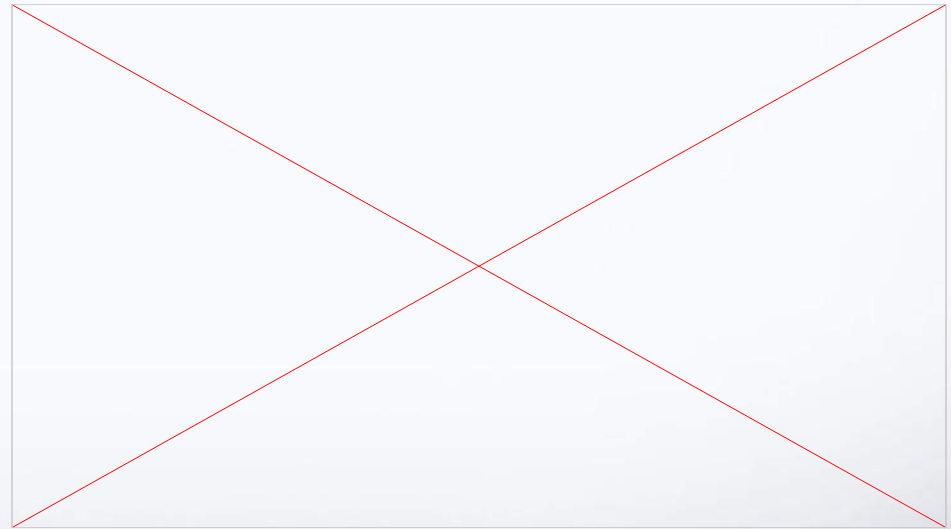
# **Board demonstrates commitment to vision by using the vision to guide decision making**

- **Do I weigh my decision against the vision each time I cast a vote?**
- **Can I explain my decisions within the context of the vision?**

What Are Other Ways Your Board Can Created A Shared Vision To Enhance Student Achievement?

# STRUCTURE

**The board  
provides a  
structure that  
supports the  
vision**



**The Board establishes a management system resulting in effective decision making processes - enables all to help achieve the vision and make best use of its resources**

- **Do I publicly support and reinforce the superintendent, teachers, and administrators?**
- **Do I regularly review my board policy manual?**
- **Do I refer to and adhere to board policy?**

**The Board ensures that long and short term plans are developed and annually revised – through a process of extensive participation, information gathering, research, and reflection**

- **Do I remain connected to my community?**
- **Am I really committed to the planning process?**
- **Do I appropriately delegate and pay attention to board appointed committees?**



**The Board sets high instructional standards based on the knowledge and skills students will need in the future**

- **Do I expect the best teachers so our students are challenged?**
- **Do I remain current on emerging needs for our students?**
- **Have I read our curriculum?**

# The board acts to ensure vision and structure comply with legal requirements

- Do I advocate for a regular review cycle for board policy?
- Am I consistent in applying board policy during appeals?
- Do I comply with the requirements for executive sessions?

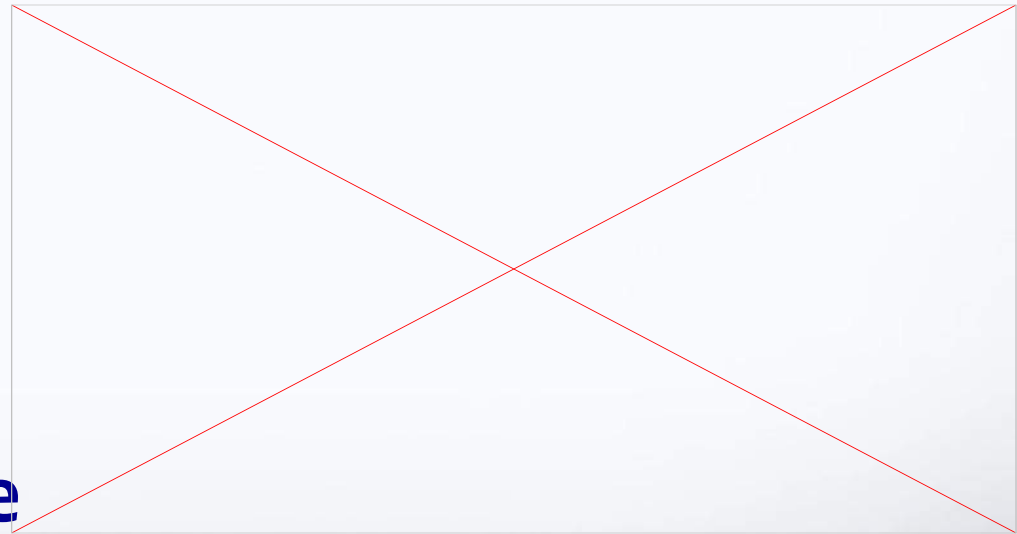
# The board encourages and supports innovative approaches to teaching, learning, and the continuous renewal of education

- Am I articulate in justifying staff development to my community?
- Do I support the regular/cyclical review of curriculum?
- Do I support adequate budget resources for staff development?

What Are Other Ways Your  
Board Could Provide A  
Structure That Supports The  
Vision?

# ACCOUNTABILITY

The board measures  
district  
performance  
toward  
accomplishing the  
vision and reports  
on the results to the  
community



association of  
**ALASKA**  
school boards

**The board receives regular reports on student progress and needs based on a variety of assessments to evaluate the quality and equity of the educational program**

- **Do I devote adequate meeting time for data presentations?**
- **Do I devote the needed time to gain a personal understanding of testing/data results?**

**The board evaluates the superintendent and board performance annually and reports the results to the public**

- **Do I provide objective input on the superintendent's evaluation based on the district vision?**
- **Am I timely in providing my input?**
- **Am I an active, honest participant in the board self-evaluation?**

**The board ensures long and short term plans are evaluated and revised with the needs of students in mind**

- **Do I ask for updates on our strategic plan and monitor for progress/potential hurdles**
- **Do I periodically review our plans so I can remain focused on our vision?**
- **Do I ask, “Is it best for kids” as I participate?**



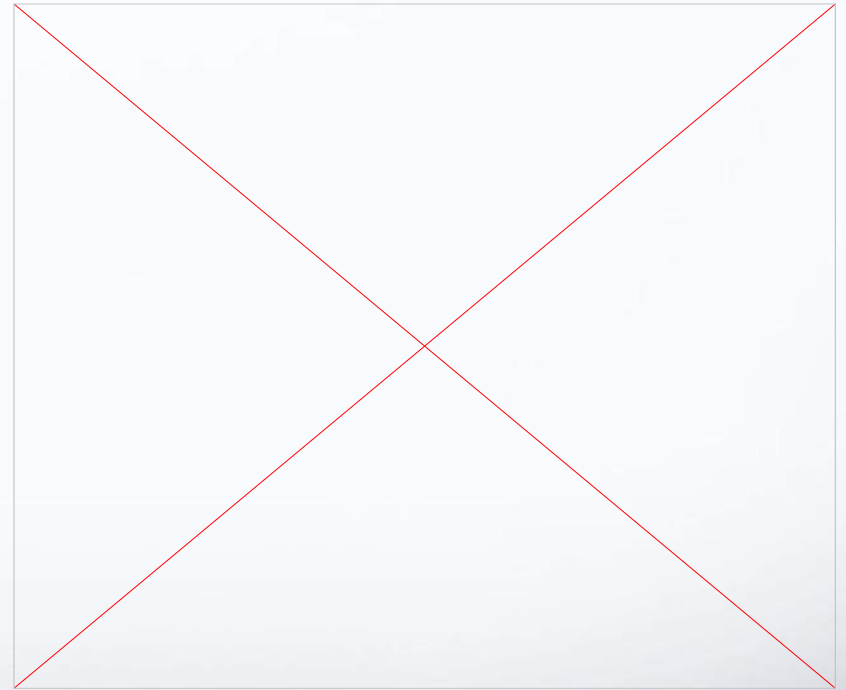
**The board uses an understandable format to periodically report district performance to the public**

- **Do I understand it?**
- **Can I explain it to others?**
- **Is it readily available to the public?**

# What Are Other Ways Your Board Can Measure The District's Performance Toward Accomplishing The Visions and Reporting The Results To The Public

# ADVOCACY

**The board  
champions the  
vision**



# The board leads in celebrating the achievements of students and accomplishments of others who contribute to education

- Am I a defender of public education and our students?
- Do I make the time to attend student activities?
- Does my community look on me as an advocate?
- Does my board make time for student recognitions at our meetings?



**The board advocates for children and families and establishes strong relationships with parents and other mentors to help support students**

- **Do I encourage those I meet to visit and participate in my schools?**
- **Do I personally practice “assets” as I come in contact with our youth?**

**The board establishes partnerships with individuals, groups, and organizations to promote educational opportunities for all students**

- **Do I continually look for new student opportunities?**
- **Do I encourage involvement from community members and organizations?**

# The board promotes school board service as a meaningful way to make long term contributions to the local community and society

- Am I visible in my community and known for my service to kids?
- Does my board attendance record reflect my commitment?
- Do I advocate for student representatives on our school board?

# The board is proactive in identifying and addressing issues that affect the education of students

- Do I remain alert for positive and negative influences on our students?
- Am I focused on the “education” of our students?
- Do I seek board development for myself to ensure I’m as effective as possible at serving our students?



What Are Other Ways You and  
Your Board Could Champion  
The Vision?

# CONDUCT & ETHICS

**The board and its individual members conduct district business in a fair, respectful, and responsible manner**



**The board and its individual members perform in a manner that reflects service to the community on behalf of students**

- **Do I publicly support the majority opinion, even when I am in the minority?**
- **Am I careful to never speak “for” the board?**

**The board demonstrates a commitment to continually improving teamwork, problem solving, and decision making skills through a conscious program of board development**

- **When problems arise am I part of the problem or the solution?**
- **Do I fully participate in board development to improve my skills?**
- **Do my colleagues perceive me as a member of the team?**

**Expenditures for board activities are clearly identified in the budget, related to the district vision, and open to public scrutiny**

- **Do I spend district money as if it were my own?**
- **Do I take full advantage of the training opportunities paid for with district funds?**

What Are Other Ways You and  
Your Board Conduct District  
Business In A Fair, Respectful,  
and Responsible Manner?

# Sharing Time

● What are some tasks of the school board?

- Write on half sheets
- Make sure half sheet is horizontal
- Use 3-5 words
- WRITE BIG