

# WELCOME

## The Ultimate Arranged Marriage~

## Superintendent and Board Relationship

Experienced Board Member Academy

AASB Annual Conference 2022

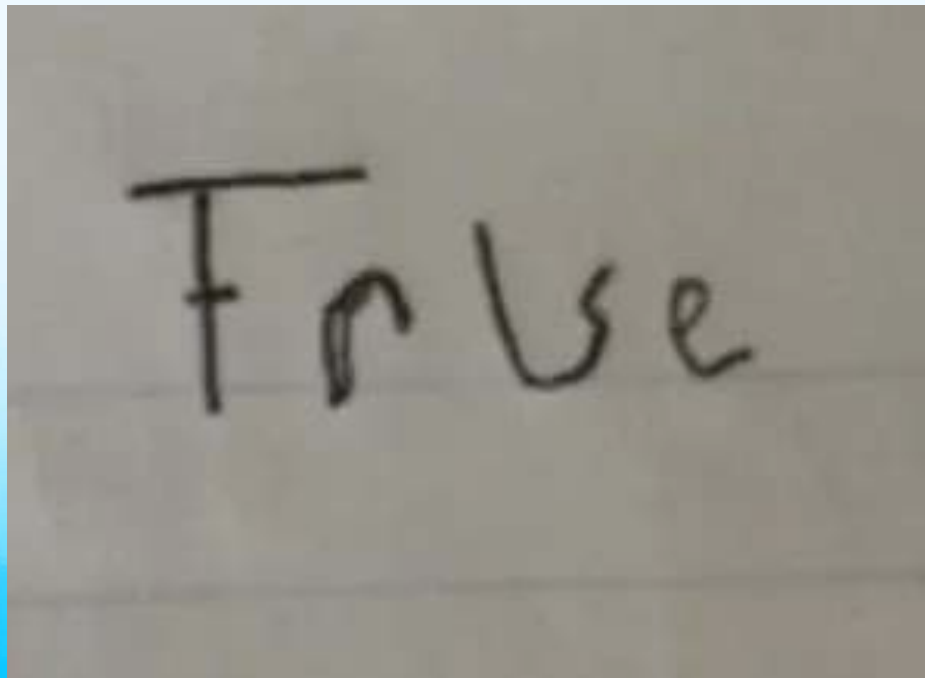


# Objectives

- Review roles and responsibilities of the board and superintendent
- Identify and prioritize critical issues for the district and the team
- Discuss working relationships and expectations for the team
- Identify next steps and continuing education to address critical issues

# True or False?

- **The board/superintendent relationship can do more to determine the effectiveness and efficiency of education in schools than any other single factor.**



# True or False?

- The relationship between and among the board members and the superintendent is healthier when all parties discuss and resolve misunderstandings and disagreements **BEFORE** serious conflict.

# Connections

- 1 On a piece of paper write down a time you know your board did a really good job with giving the superintendent direction.
- 2 After this write down a time that you or someone you observed overstepped their roles as a board member.

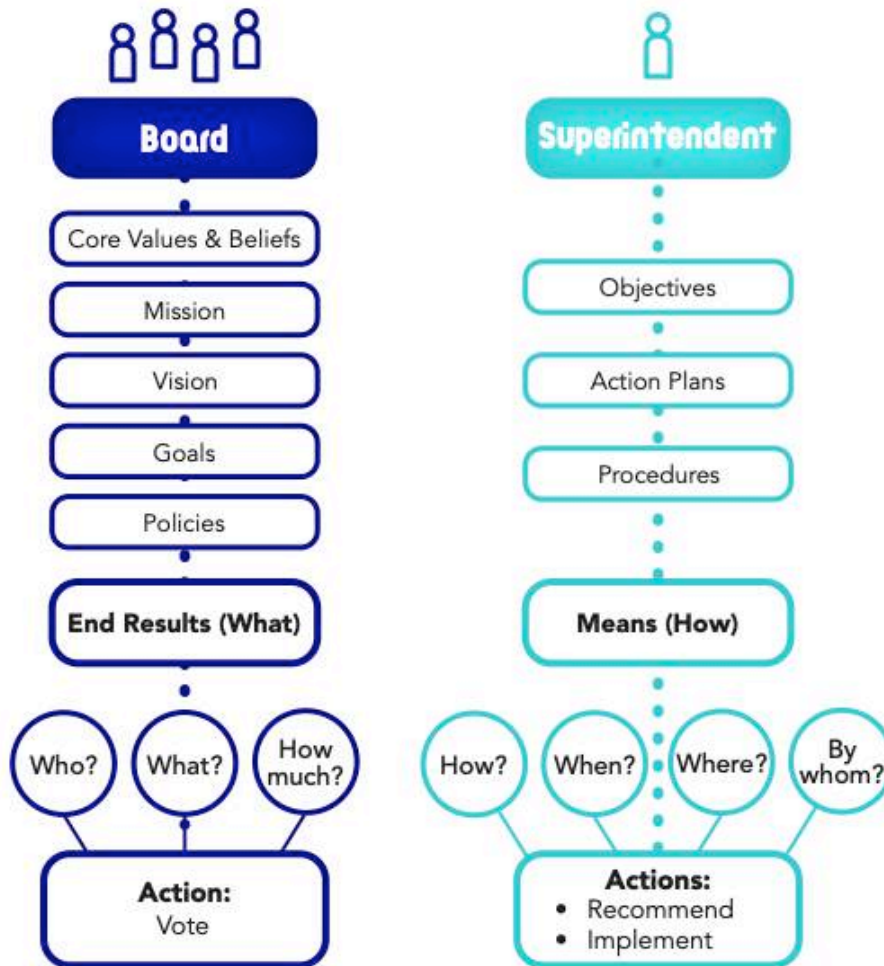
Discuss at your table for a few minutes.



association of  
**ALASKA**  
school boards



## Board/Superintendent Roles



**Trust & Communication**



# Roles & Responsibilities

For School Board Members  
& Superintendents



August 2022





***“Board members, because they represent the people and have the power to act, and superintendents, because they have professional knowledge and the responsibility to lead and manage, are close enough to communities and schools to see what needs to be done and are powerful enough to do it . They are the governance team.”***



What School Boards Can Do:  
Reform Governance for Urban  
Schools  
*Donald R. McAdams*

# Strengthening the Relationship

- 1 Build mutual trust and understanding.
- 2 Develop a shared understanding of roles and expectations of the board as well as the superintendent.
- 3 Build a shared vision that focuses on student needs for the future.

# Strengthening the Relationship

(continued)

- 4 Ensure long term communication within and between the board and the superintendent.
- 5 Make effective decisions emphasizing consensus building, conflict resolution, and learning together.
- 6 Develop positive links with the community.

# Board/Superintendent Relationship Standards of Practice

- 1 Let your **strategic plan** and yearly **goals** be your guide.
- 2 Only **one employee** reports to the board.
- 3 Only the superintendent engages the board in decision-making.

# Standards of Practice (continued)

- 4 Board requests for district info go **through the superintendent.**
- 5 Individual board members have **no authority** to direct the superintendent.
- 6 Communication from the superintendent goes to **all board members.**

## Standards of Practice (continued)

- 7 No “surprising” each other at public meetings.
- 8 Treat each other with **dignity and respect**.
- 9 Utilize a clear process for **agenda setting**.
- 10 Discussion should be focused on **policy level issues**.

# THANK YOU!

## Contact Information:

Timi C Tullis

Association of Alaska School Board

[ttullis@asb.org](mailto:ttullis@asb.org)

907-463-1660



association of  
**ALASKA**  
school boards

Thanks to MSBA for some material