

School District of Pittsville

School Board Governance Development

Self-Assessing the Board's Health

In an attempt to identify our Board's health and overall performance as we grow through our governance plan, please rate the Board's performance on each trait, from your perspective, using the following scale:

5 = Excellent

4 = Good

3 = Adequate

2 = Marginal

1 = Poor

Board Trait	Rating				
	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Marginal	Poor
We communicate well and make it a practice to share information with all board members. In addition, we have clear guidelines on the use of e-mail to communicate between meetings.	5	4	3	2	1
We practice the "no surprise" rule with our president, the board as a whole, and with the superintendent.	5	4	3	2	1
We are knowledgeable about our rules and responsibilities, and we ask the right kinds of questions during discussions at committee and board meetings. We are not a "rubber stamp" board.	5	4	3	2	1
We avoid having board members involved in the management of the district and going around the administration to obtain information directly from the faculty and staff.	5	4	3	2	1
The role of the board president is clear. We respect and support that role.	5	4	3	2	1
The president manages the board meetings by keeping us on schedule, following the agendas, and facilitating effective meetings.	5	4	3	2	1
As a board, we share a common vision for the district and that vision is congruent with the administration.	5	4	3	2	1
The board has well-defined guidelines on conduct and always avoids counterproductive behavior by individual members.	5	4	3	2	1
We maintain a high level of trust and respect among ourselves as board members.	5	4	3	2	1
The board participates in professional development activities as a group. We learn from each other and encourage each other to obtain training and stay up-to-date on important issues facing the board.	5	4	3	2	1
As a board, we seek to engage stakeholders, both internal and external, in the development of the district's long-term strategic priorities.	5	4	3	2	1
The board makes a regular practice of environmental scanning in order to prepare and respond to trends and changing conditions that impact the educational and fiscal health of the district.	5	4	3	2	1
The board is actively involved in advocating for the district at the local and state level. We set our own political and other agendas aside to effectively promote the district.	5	4	3	2	1
As a board member, I am actively involved in the district and attend district events at all levels when my schedule allows for it.	5	4	3	2	1
We are committed to student achievement, and we're able to keep our focus on the "big picture" when the district is going through difficult times. We lead by example and operate under the philosophy that excellence is engineered.	5	4	3	2	1

Board Trait	Rating				
	Excellent	Good	Adequate	Marginal	Poor
	5	4	3	2	1
We participate in a board self assessment process every year. We take the time to discuss our strengths and weaknesses and put procedures in place to address our needs.	5	4	3	2	1
Individually, we vote according to our convictions, challenge the judgment of colleagues when necessary, yet are willing to support the decision of the board and work with fellow board members in the spirit of cooperation.	5	4	3	2	1
The board maintains the confidential nature of board deliberations and individually we avoid acting as the spokesperson for the board unless specifically authorized to do so.	5	4	3	2	1

Improvement in governance requires new skills among both the board and administrators, and the will on the part of each to commit to a more effective form of governance. With this in mind . . .

As a board member, what do you feel best about with regard to the board's work during this past year?

With regard to the board's governance, what is the most pressing need for growth or innovation the board should address during the next year?

What professional development is needed for the board and administration to continue our growth in governance to keep the district moving forward?