



Date: July 8, 2010
To: Board of Education
From: J. Brian Sarvis, Ed.D, Superintendent
Subject: Board of Education Self-evaluation Form

Action Agenda

Background

The board would like to pursue a self-evaluation. Comments and suggestions were encouraged and requested. A number of suggestions were received from board members and have been incorporated into the attached document.

Issue

The attached Self-assessment Questionnaire has been revised with additional items added by board members.

Recommendation

It is recommended that the board of education approve the attached "Self-Assessment Questionnaire" for its self-evaluation.

Attachment(s)?	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	Yes (if so, please attach)	<input type="checkbox"/>	No	<input type="checkbox"/>	Powerpoint	<input type="checkbox"/>	Overhead	<input type="checkbox"/>	Consultant
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THE BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

The following statements describe a variety of possible actions by boards. Some may represent your own experiences as a board member, while others may not. For each item, please mark the extent to which you agree or disagree. Please note the importance of the item in the column at the far right.

	Item	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Importance Little= 0 Very= 4
1.	The board annually conducts a self-evaluation to monitor its performance.					
2.	The board has established, adopted, and revised policies so that they are clear, up-to-date, and in compliance with state and federal laws and regulations.					
3.	A procedure is in place for established policies to be reviewed on a regular basis.					
4.	The board follows its own policies regarding board operations.					
5.	The board set annual goals and keeps those goals at the forefront of all board and district decisions throughout the year.					
6.	The agenda is properly posted and developed according to board policy.					
7.	The board president runs an orderly meeting, with clear instructions and directions to the public as well as board members.					
8.	All deliberations and discussion between board members is held in accordance with the Brown Act.					
9.	The board recognizes and protects the district chain of command.					
10.	Board members treat staff members in a respectful manner at all times.					
11.	Board deliberations and actions are limited to board work, not staff work.					
12.	Board members only exercise their authority as a board of the whole at properly posted meetings.					
13.	The board works to reach consensus on important matters.					
14.	The board exercises effective oversight in regard to educational matters.					
15.	The board exercises effective oversight in regards to administrative matters.					
16.	The board ensures accountability.					

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	Item	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Importance Little= 0 Very= 4
17.	Our board explicitly examines the "downside" or possible pitfalls of any important decision it is about to make.					
18.	The board often questions administrative proposals, requiring the superintendent to reconsider the recommendations.					
19.	The board is proactive with respect to problems and issues that arise.					
20.	The board ensures that the variety of values and perspectives in our diverse community are reflected in the policy process.					
21.	The board models and reinforces respect for cultural and intellectual diversity.					
22.	The board agenda facilitates effective and efficient decision-making.					
23.	Most board members tend to rely on observation and informal discussions to learn about their roles and responsibilities.					
24.	This board's decisions usually result in a split vote.					
25.	When faced with important issues, the board often "brainstorms" and tries to find creative approaches or solutions to problems.					
26.	At our board meetings, there is at least as much dialogue among members as there is between members and administrators.					
27.	Some board members usually vote together for or against particular issues.					
28.	The board often requests that a decision be postponed until further information can be obtained.					
29.	Our board meetings tend to focus more on current concerns than on preparing for the future.					
30.	The board often requests additional information before making a decision.					
31.	I have never received feedback from fellow board members on my performance as a board member.					
32.	The board often discusses its role in management of the districts.					

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	Item	Strongly Agree	Agree	Disagree	Strongly Disagree	Importance Little= 0 Very= 4
33.	The board often discusses the administration's role in policy-making.					
34.	The board usually receives a full rationale for the recommendations it is asked to act upon.					
35.	At times this board has appeared unaware of the need for board action and the impact of inaction within our community.					
36.	At times this board has appeared unaware of the impact its decisions will have upon our staff.					
37.	I feel comfortable speaking my mind on key issues.					
38.	This board spends sufficient time listening to different points of view before it votes on an important matter.					
39.	The board discusses future trends in the larger environment that may present specific opportunities or problems for the districts.					
40.	Once a decision is made, board members work together to see that it is accepted and carried out.					
41.	The board has been known to reverse its position based on pressure from the community.					
42.	Members of this board observe rules of decorum.					

Open-ended questions

1. What are the board's greatest strengths?

THE BOARD SELF-ASSESSMENT QUESTIONNAIRE

2. What are the board's greatest weaknesses?

3. Are there things related to the board you'd like to see changed? Please be as specific as possible.

4. How could the board do its job better?