

Educators for Quality Alternatives

July 15, 2017 | 9am - 3pm

Present: Wayne, Tim, Aaron, Michelle, Anna, Donna, Darcy, Ivan, Troave

LAPCS Board Training - Neil Ranu

Review of board responsibilities, and board self survey.

Responsibilities - Duty of Care, duty of Loyalty, duty of obedience

PUBLIC STEWARDSHIP

Review of Legal Handbook and responsibilities to the law

- Governmental Ethics
- Public Records
- Public Bid
- Open Meetings
- Government Budget Act

Transparency / Open Meetings

- Michelle: Openness - what level of work/committee work becomes a meeting that requires an open meeting perspective
 - A: working groups versus committee - are you working in a volunteer capacity or in a governance capacity
 - A: Open meeting laws also governs Executive Session (Board is aligned with this already)

GOVERNANCE

What does Governance mean?

- Shape the mission and strategic direction of the school
- Ensure leadership and resources
- Monitor and improve performance

Legally mandated responsibility enacted collectively

Outside looking in

Board has ultimate responsibility

MANAGEMENT SUPPORT

Providing expertise, thought partnership, ambassadors, partnership

Inside looking out - providing support to staff as individual volunteers

ED/CEO/staff have authority

The sweet spot is interdependence between board and school leader. An independent board is micromanaging, a dependent board is rubber stamping.

Question - Ivan - how do we ensure that there is a means of communication between staff and board to ensure good oversight of ED - Michelle responds with details of the evaluation process - Neil A: there need to be structural processes in place to ensure that communication.

	Committee	Working Group
Function	Governance	Management Support
Led by	Board of Directors	ED/ Staff
Other Organizational Participants	School leader and Staff	Board Members
Outside Community Member Participation	Based on expertise	Based on passion / expertise

You can use committees as a way to develop new board members or funders. Keep the above distinction in mind relative to open meetings laws.

Michelle: what are the standard committees?

STANDARD BUCKETS (Neil)

Academic

- Academic Program
- Evaluation / ED Oversight
- School Culture
- Possible Parent / Family Communication

Finance

- Academic Program
- Evaluation
- School Culture

Development / Fundraising

- Financing
- Community Relations
- Partnership Development

Governance

- Board recruitment
- Trainings
- Succession Planning
- Also executive oversight
- Possible staff/ family communication policy

EFFECTIVE AND ENGAGING BOARD MEETINGS (banning the report-out)

Board packets

- Ample time

- Efficient communication of information
- Visual (dashboards, pictures)

**** Ask neil for sample dashboards**

Committee and staff put information into board packet, and that information frames questions for the agenda.

Agenda

We are setting up the conversation we want to have at the board meeting.

Develop storylines

Tie themes to hot topics

Agenda is *inquiry based* , focused on the themes we want to discuss during the meeting.

COMMITTEE LUNCH

Wayne

12:15 - 1pm

Finance - (monthly)

Elizabeth, Aaron, Wayne, FLS representative

Ongoing

Governance- (Quarterly)

Tim, Ivan, Troave, Michelle

- Executive / Hiring
- Compliance / By Law
- ED Review Annually

Development (Monthly)

Darcy, Donna, Anna, Elizabeth

- Special functions
- One fundraiser
- Assist in Organizing events
- Fundraising goals
- Partnership and community development

Add officer election to next meeting agenda

STRATEGIC PLANNING *Led by Darcy and Elizabeth*

EQA STRENGTHS

- Diversity of the board (experience, skills, backgrounds, and intentional growth)
- Mission Alignment
- Continuity of Leadership
- Improving and positive public profile (in Ed world)
- Local Support, both in \$\$ and in partnerships
- Strong fiscal position
- Fancy new campus
- Fundraising => grants
- Uplifting of students
- Student support services
- Filling a real community need
- Focus on innovation
- Favorable position relative to local/state government



EQA Weaknesses

- The Brand - language around the school, publicity of success stories, the size and breadth of our public profile in the community.
- Dependence on ED - we have a shallow leadership bench at schools, and board relies on ED for guidance too much
- Board Expertise and full engagement - new board, new organizational structure
- Size of the organizations - is two schools too small or too big?
- Not meeting all performance goals
- Fundraising relative to individual donors and community donors
- Alternate Evaluation Rubric publicity
- Uncertainty of student population year over year and organizational sensitivity to it.



EQA THREATS

- Changes in recurring funding
- Political landscape - local elections + unification
- Competition in # of schools and type of practices
- Leadership changes in the future
- Changing curricular frameworks
- Human capital
- Public relations



Planning for Strategic Growth - 2017-18 and beyond

Note: board members have agreed to research and provide a paragraph length summary of the issue at the September board meeting.

Below are potential areas for strategic growth at EQA

DONNA - Adding Operational Capacity through targeted development

- Communications / development
- Partnership / public affairs
- Curricular / student services

ALL - More Schools

- Extended ed => certification / 13th grade
- Q: what are the #s?

DARCY, ANNA, MICHELLE - Middle School

- What is the model? What does it look like?
- How would NET Middle students progress or not to the NET high schools

TROAVE - Jump Start / Career Center

- How aligned will we be with the Jump Start pathways?
- Will we be a partner with the Career Center?

MICHELLE / IVAN - Daycare / Parent School / Early Childhood Ed CTE

- Costs associated
- Startup Funding
- Ongoing funding model

DARCY - Transitional Housing model

- Partnership with HANO?
- Funding model