



Alexandria City Public Schools School Board Retreat

May 16, 2022



Board Operating Procedures

Review and Finalize Recommendation

FOUNDATION
Innovation

Reviewed

- ✧ Role – authorized acts
- ✧ Meetings – types and purposes
- ✧ Agenda
- ✧ Member Conduct During Meetings and Work Sessions
- ✧ Voting
- ✧ Closed Session
- ✧ Officer Selection
- ✧ New Board Member Transitions
- ✧ Requests for Information
- ✧ Superintendent Visits
- ✧ Meeting Preparation
- ✧ Visits to Campuses – amended to remove "or attending to a parental duty"
- ✧ Evaluation of School Board
- ✧ Evaluation of the Superintendent

Under Review

- Communications

- Communication with Community Members – speaking engagements – do we need a timeline or clarification such as on behalf of the school division? (page 9)
- City Council Designee – role, do we need additional details of protocol – ie how often to communicate
- Email and Social Media
- Employee Performance
- Complaints

Media Relations

- It has been suggested that media requests to school board members that are followed up with response from Communications or Superintendent have additional communication to school board to bring closure to the request
- Media Inquiries – any changes (Page 12)
- Liaison assignments (page 10 and 12)

Thoughts

- ✓ Review by Policy Coordinator – statute, current policy & bylaws
- ✓ Review to be consistent with new CRM
- ✓ Exhibit A – removed from Page 11 Complaints

School Boards Make a **Difference**





The Mission:

The Alexandria City Public School Division will ensure success by inspiring students and addressing barriers to learning.

The Vision:

Empowering all students to thrive in a diverse and ever-changing world and it has five core values that ensure ACPS is Welcoming, Empowering, Equity-Focused, Innovative and Results-Driven.

The Strategic Goals: Systemic Alignment; Instructional Excellence; Student Accessibility and Support; Strategic Resource Allocation; and Family and Community Engagement.

Mission, Vision & Goals



"In hindsight, I believe that our oversight was shortsighted, at least that's my insight."

School Boards – and High Student Achievement

1. Commit to a vision of high expectations for student achievement and quality instruction and define clear goals toward that vision
2. Have strong shared beliefs and values about what is possible for students and their ability to learn, and of the system and its ability to teach all children at high levels.
3. Are accountability driven, spending less time on operational issues and more time focused on policies to improve student achievement.
4. Have a collaborative relationship with staff and the community and establish a strong communications structure to inform and engage both internal and external stakeholders in setting and achieving district goals.
5. Are data savvy; they embrace and monitor data, even when the information is negative, and use it to drive continuous improvement.
6. Align and sustain resources, such as professional development, to meet district goals.
7. Lead as a united team with the superintendent, each from their respective roles, with strong collaboration and mutual trust.
8. Take part in team development and training, sometimes with their superintendents, to build shared knowledge, values and commitments for their improvement efforts.

Effective Boards

1. Going solo's a no-no
2. Respect the team
3. Understand the difference between board and staff
4. Share and defend your views, but listen to the views of others
5. Do your homework and ask tough questions
6. Respect your oath
7. Keep learning



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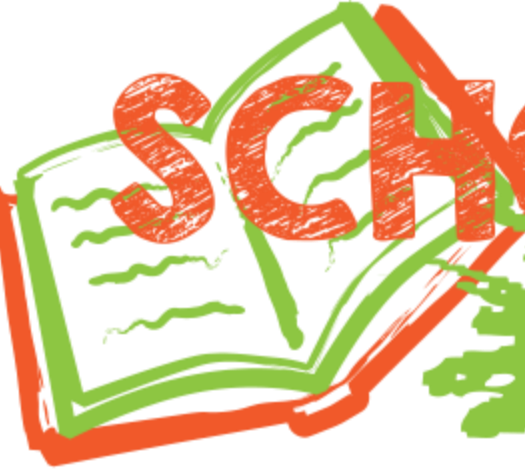
Concerning Indicators

- Blurring the line between policy and administrative regulation
 - Don't be too detached, but don't micromanage.
- Lack of unified leadership
- Disregard for superintendent's/administration's opinion or recommendations
- Failure to maintain or follow policies
- Lack of communication to staff – including policy changes
- Making impossible or unrealistic demands on the superintendent
- Inadequate training of staff and school board
- Deliberating outside of a public meeting

To Summarize

1. Vision of high expectation/goals to support that vision
2. Shared beliefs about student learning and the system to teach all children at high levels
3. Accountability driven
4. Collaborative relationship and communications structure to inform stakeholders
5. Data savvy to drive continuous improvement
6. Align and sustain resources to meet district goals
7. United team
8. Embrace training for improvement efforts

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SCHOOL BOARDS LEAD

so students achieve

Effective school boards have a collaborative relationship with staff and the community and establish a strong communications structure to inform and engage both internal and external stakeholders in setting and achieving district goals.