



# How to Make Governing Board Meetings More Effective

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# Agenda

- Top 15 things every state charter school governing board should know
- Interactive scenarios
- Group debrief



# **Top 15 Things Every State Charter School Governing Board Should Know**

Drum roll please....

**Drum roll please....**





**1. Hiring a competent school leader will have the greatest impact on the academic success of the school so be prepared to pay him/her accordingly.**

**2. Governing boards are stewards of public funds and trust.**

**3. Embrace and encourage stakeholder feedback,  
even when it's negative.**

**4. Recruit diverse board members in skill sets and in backgrounds.**



**5. Strategic Planning should occur within the first three years of the initial charter term and be regularly monitored and revised.**

**6. Governing boards must strive for maximum transparency by strictly adhering to the Georgia Open Meetings Act (O.C.G.A. § 50-14-1, et seq.).**

**7. 70%-80% of board work should happen at the committee level.**

**8. Governing boards oversee policy development for the school. This is an on-going process that should be managed and prioritized from a risk management perspective.**

**9. The bylaws are your guide to govern. Keep them updated and make sure they align with current governance practice.**

**10. The governing board cannot delegate fiduciary duty, oversight, or contractual obligations.**

**11. Governing board members are responsible for academic, financial, and operational oversight of the school, not the day-to-day operations.**

**However, the governing board should monitor school staff's performance of the school's day-to-day operations to ensure the school's staff is following the governing board's policies.**



**12. You have power over school staff – use it, but don't abuse it.**

**13. Trust and open communication between the governing board and leadership are vital to good governance.**

**14. Governing boards should have a clear understanding of the actual performance of the school.**

**15. Governing board members must make sure that recommendations are fully vetted and understood before taking action.**

# Scenarios

Each table has a specific scenario. Take 20 minutes read the scenario and answer the questions.

We will debrief as an entire group.

- Assign a person or persons from your group to summarize the scenario, explain the major issues in the scenario, answer some of the questions included in the scenario, and anything you would have done differently.