



The Ultimate 28 Point Board Engagement Assessment

Use this tool to determine what your board is doing well...and what they need to work on.

Our board prepares to do its job by...

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| YES | NO | Conducting a thorough orientation for all board members. |
| YES | NO | Integrating new members into the team as quickly as possible. |
| YES | NO | Attending board development conferences. |
| YES | NO | Providing monthly or quarterly board development activities for all board members. |
| YES | NO | Performing an annual self-evaluation of board operations. |
| YES | NO | Providing all board members with copies of the mission statement, bylaws, strategic plan, and all other important documents of the organization. |
| YES | NO | Touring all facilities at least once a year. |

Our board ensures good meetings by...

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| YES | NO | Limiting monthly meetings to two hours or less (or four hours or less for quarterly meetings) |
| YES | NO | Providing a comfortable meeting room conducive to business. |
| YES | NO | Convening and adjourning on time. |
| YES | NO | Sticking to the prepared agenda. |
| YES | NO | Working for consensus rather than fighting for a majority. |
| YES | NO | Following a businesslike system of parliamentary rules. |
| YES | NO | Including the executive as a resource for all deliberations. |
| YES | NO | Confining all discussion to policy issues and avoiding management issues. |
| YES | NO | Allowing/encouraging all board members to participate in discussion. |

Individual board members...

YES	NO	Attend at least 90% of all board meetings and committee meetings to which they're assigned.
YES	NO	Come to meetings prepared to discuss agenda issues.
YES	NO	Come to meetings on time.
YES	NO	See themselves as part of a team effort.
YES	NO	Act as advocates for the organization.
YES	NO	Know their responsibility as trustees of the organization.
YES	NO	Attempt to exercise authority only during official meetings of the board.
YES	NO	Represent the broad interest of the organization and all constituents, not special interests.
YES	NO	Understand the most efficient way to govern is to delegate management to the executive.

Our board plans for the future of the organization by...

YES	NO	Regularly reviewing and approving the mission statement.
YES	NO	Annually reviewing progress toward long-range goals and modifying the strategic plan accordingly.
YES	NO	Operating from opportunity to opportunity rather than crisis to crisis.

For reflection:

In which of the major categories above does our board show real strength?

In which of the major categories above does our board need improvement?