



6 Keys (or “P”s) of Great Board Members

Great boards of education are highly effective and maintain focus on the **advancement of student achievement for all students in their district**. Great boards require great board members. From our work in field services, we have observed that the following 6 key traits lead to great board members:

#1 **Passionate** - Expressing genuine passion about the **why** and what you believe and do. It is the level of care and excitement you generate. This provides motivation for you and others. Enthusiasm and energy move people and organizations. Beware: unbridled passion distracts progress.

- *What are you passionate about and how do you share it with others?*

#2 **Positive** - Affirming approach in your expectations and outcomes that is ever present in your interaction with others. Energizes and enhances motivation and accelerates momentum by reinforcing efforts. A contagious “can do” attitude is powerful, especially when spread to others and they pass it along. Beware: acting as a “yes man/woman” or “rubber stamp” abdicates your role.

- *How do you interact with others?*

#3 **Purposeful** - The **why** of what you believe and do. Having a focused direction for your passion defines the point of your work. Always follow the highest ethical standards. This direction provides meaning for district mission and goals while maintaining honorable means to achieve them.

- *Why and how are you serving?*

#4 **Perseverance** - Your level of dedication expressed for your shared mission includes a focused resilience, diligence, tenacity and consistency in attendance and punctuality. It is a channeled persistence for your positive efforts. Beware: obsessive behavior is not perseverance.

- *How do you maintain your effort?*

#5 **Prepared** - Reading all distributed materials, seek relevant information, allocate time for reflection, organizing your thoughts, and be ready to **listen**, discuss, share, deliberate and decide.

- *How do you dedicate the time and attention required to maximize your readiness?*

#6 **Progressive** - Your eagerness to learn more and develop professionally will improve your effectiveness and that of your board. It is a genuine commitment to gaining knowledge and relevant information. Results include introducing best practices and procedures to others for implementation.

- *Will you remain committed to grow and share?*