

Grand Isle Supervisory Union
South Hero School District

School Board Annual Retreat

Thursday, July 30, 2020, 2-5 p.m.

Location: Folsom Education & Community Center (Julie's Classroom)

Agenda

Call to Order

1. Call to Order

Board Business.

2. VSBA Annual School Board Self-Assessment Survey and Review
3. Goal setting, including:
 - a. Board member education
 - b. Board recruitment
 - c. Develop a work plan for the board
4. Establish timeline for data communications
5. Opening Plan Update

Closure

6. Adjourn

Note: Executive Session: If discussion warrants and the Board so votes, some items may be discussed in Executive Session pursuant to VSA 1 §313(a)

Discussion Items - Issues the Board needs to discuss and deliberate, but upon which no action is taken at this meeting.

Action Items - Issues that require the Board to make a decision by vote, may have been discussed over several meetings prior to this point.

Consent Items - Routine matters that need no discussion by the Board, but require Board approval. They are grouped together as a single agenda item. Background materials are provided in the Board packet to be reviewed ahead of the meeting. If there are no concerns, they are approved with a single vote. Any member can request the Board remove an item to be discussed and voted on separately. This frees up time at meetings.

Information Items [Incidental Information] - Matters the Board needs to know about, but for which no Board action is needed. The information flow is one way, from presenter to the Board. Questions for clarification are entertained as time allows.

Annual School Board Self-Assessment Survey

_____ School Board Member

_____ Administrator

Check the boxes below that best identify your response to each question about the board's performance. If you haven't formed an opinion about a specific question then leave it blank. There are no right or wrong answers; your personal views are important. VSBA staff can provide a digital version of this tool and will compile results and share the common trends and differences of opinion with the board and administrators at a scheduled board work session. The information will help the board assess its effectiveness, identify priorities, and create short and long-term goals for the leadership team.

Create a vision for education in the community.		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
1.	The board seeks community input in a variety of settings and contexts to ensure participation that is representative of the community as a whole.				
2.	A climate of open communications exists at board meetings and throughout the district.				
3.	Community engagement efforts are supported with appropriate resources.				
4.	The board has established a vision, and the vision is clearly communicated to the community.				
5.	The board turns to the vision to guide its decision making when appropriate.				
6.	The board has received data and evidence related to progress toward the vision.				
7.	The board has reviewed and, if appropriate, refined the vision in accordance with policy.				

Establish policy parameters.		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
8.	Our policies ensure alignment of school district action with the board's vision.				
9.	Our policies clearly describe the board's intent and leave implementation details to the superintendent.				
10.	Our policies are compliant with state and federal requirements.				
11.	Our policies identify measurable outcomes or objectives, where appropriate.				
12.	Our policies lead to fair, reasonable, and consistent and objective treatment of issues.				

13.	Stakeholder representatives (school board, senior leadership, district staff, school staff, employee organizations, parents, community advocates, and students) play a meaningful role in the policy development process.				
14.	The superintendent has developed administrative procedures that are aligned to appropriate board policies.				
15.	We have a policy review protocol that ensures that every policy in our manual is reviewed every 3-5 years.				

Board and Superintendent Partnership		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
16.	The board has set clear performance goals for the district/SU.				
17.	The board has clearly communicated annual performance goals for the superintendent.				
18.	The board holds the superintendent accountable for developing a strategy and a work plan to achieve district or SU goals.				
19.	The board evaluated the superintendent's performance on an annual basis.				
20.	The board receives regular reports that enable the board to evaluate implementation of its vision and progress towards its goals.				

Budget		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
21.	The board adopts and monitors policies related to budgeting and financial oversight.				
22.	The board develops broad budget parameters and expects the administration to create the line item details.				
23.	The board engages the community in setting budget priorities.				
24.	The budget is responsive to community priorities and concerns as reflected in voter approval of the budget.				
25.	The board assures that internal controls are in place to protect public funds.				
26.	The board receives quarterly financial reports and assures the administration is addressing any material deviations from the budget.				
27.	The annual audit is free from any material findings.				

Monitor Progress		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
28.	Our district has Financial Management and General Financial Accountability policies in place.				
29.	Our district has a Policy Review schedule in place.				
30.	Our district has a Strategic Plan with benchmarks for progress towards the vision and goals.				
31.	Our district has a Superintendent Evaluation Process in place.				
32.	The board receives a report on one of the policies and/or plans above at each meeting of the board.				
33.	When monitoring progress toward the vision, the board receives data from other districts that are similar to ours in order to compare progress.				
34.	When monitoring progress toward the vision, the board examines district data by gender, race, and socioeconomic status to measure the success of all students.				
35.	When monitoring progress toward the vision, the board uses student achievement benchmarks to make decisions and establish district priorities.				
36.	Our district publishes an annual report of progress that includes data from prior years.				
37.	Our district ensures effective and timely communications on the accountability system and progress.				

Effective and Ethical Operations		Agree	Agree Strongly	Disagree	Disagree Strongly
38.	The board has a Conflict of Interest policy.				
39.	The Conflict of Interest policy is adhered to.				
40.	The Conflict of Interest policy is reviewed according to the policy review schedule.				
41.	The board adopts a Code of Ethics that outlines expectations and commitments.				
42.	The board has discussed and adopted operating protocols.				
43.	The protocols are uniformly followed by board members.				
44.	The board stays out of staff and student issues which may result in quasi-judicial hearings before the board.				
45.	The board handles quasi-judicial hearings in a consistent and orderly fashion and arrives at clear, fair conclusions.				
46.	Board members respect the fact that they have no official power outside the actions of the full board.				
47.	The board adheres to the open meeting law and carefully follows statutory guidelines for executive session.				

48.	Board members are respectful to other board members, administrators, staff, and community members.				
49.	Board members have the information needed to make informed decisions and understand their potential impact.				
50.	Regular board meetings are efficient and generally last no more than 2-3 hours.				
51.	Board members participate in board development activities annually.				
52.	Board members understand that they are community trustees to assure quality education and that taxpayers get a great return on investment, and that they are not the operators of the school.				