Board / Head Partnership:  
a facilitated discussion

Trustee Governance Conference:  
Strategic Thinking for Boards and Heads of School  
Saturday, December 7, 2018

Five elements were consistently present and paramount to strategic effectiveness of boards and to a set of institutional outcomes for independent schools in our study:
#1 The percentage of trustees who are current parents has minimal direct influence on strategic effectiveness within boards of trustees.

#2 Strategically effective boards are intentional about onboarding new trustees.

#3 The purposeful use of committees is associated with increased strategic effectiveness.

#4 Boards that rate highly on strategic effectiveness contribute positively to institutional performance.

#5 The relationship between board chair and head of school is critical.

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Stability Markers

#1 Cash Reserve/Debt/Endowment mix
#2 Strategic Plan/Strategic Financial Plan
#3 Executive Leadership
#4 Hard Income Driven
#5 Profiled Board
#6 Board Leadership

Attributes Of An Outstanding Nonprofit Board Chair

1. Personal Commitment to the Nonprofit
2. Exude Enthusiasm
3. Ability to See the Big Picture
4. Is Not “OVER” Committed
5. Relationship Magician
6. Results Oriented
7. Huge Rolodex
8. Existing Mutual Respect with the CEO/Exec. Dir.

“Attributes Of An Outstanding Nonprofit Board Chairman” by Jay Love SmartBrief BoardSource
Five elements were consistently present and paramount to strategic effectiveness of boards and to a set of institutional outcomes for independent schools in our study:

#3 The purposeful use of committees is associated with increased strategic effectiveness.
“Committees, it should be clear, do not act for the board. They prepare issues for the board to then act on. Committee work is always subject to board approval.”

Great book for new trustee orientation

Working as a Team to Make the Best Decisions
Two Excellent Resources

Many more resources at http://danesedblog.blogspot.com/

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