



School Board Work Session
June 23, 2011

Issues Brief
Recommendations from Staff for Board Committees

At their annual Board Retreat on June 6, 2011, Board members asked staff to bring forward a proposal for Board committees focused on the following three areas:

- SMART Goals for the Board
- Orientation/Information for Potential School Board Candidates
- Orientation/Information for Newly Elected Board Members

Doug Eadie addresses each of these focus areas in Five Habits of High-Impact School Boards and he recommends that Board members develop their capacity to govern in Habit 2 (pp. 25 – 47). In fulfillment of the Board's request, staff members propose the following committee structures for consideration:

Board Performance Management Committee – Consider implementation of a Board Performance Management Committee to assume responsibility for developing and monitoring Board performance standards which are reviewed on a quarterly basis. Staff recommends that this Committee should be led by the Board Chair with consideration given to the use of both collective and individual performance targets.

Board Candidate Committee – Consider implementation of a committee to develop a Board candidate informational summary targeted to notify

potential Board candidates of the key qualities, attributes, and responsibilities of effective Board members.

Board Orientation Committee – Consider implementation of a committee to focus on developing a systematic process for orienting new Board members. This committee may consider focusing on the creation of a reference guide and the possible use of Board Mentors for support.

As the Board reviews this proposal, they are asked to consider the anticipated time commitment needed to effectively serve on any given committee. It is also recommended that the Board use the Plan-Do-Study-Act model as they review and discuss the proposal.