

Annual Call for Quality Schools

Workshop 6 Campus Governance

November 20, 2019
Office of Innovation



Today's Objective

In today's session, we will:

1. Clarify the difference between Campus and 1882 Governing Boards
2. Explore the value of a strong Campus Board
3. Define the role of your Campus Board

What do we mean by governance?

Governance refers to the processes of interaction and decision-making among the people in an organization.

- Who's in charge of resources, schedule, mission, etc.?
- Who gets consulted when decisions are made?
- How and when are decisions get made?
- What is the process for collecting feedback from stakeholders?

Why is governance especially important for charter schools?

Formal School Governance Structures

Traditional School

1. Department of Education
2. Texas Education Agency
3. SAISD Board of Trustees
4. Superintendent
5. Assistant Superintendent
6. Campus Leadership Team
7. Principal
8. Campus staff

In-District Charter School

1. Department of Education
2. Texas Education Agency
3. SAISD Board of Trustees
4. SB 1882 Nonprofit Board*
5. Campus Advisory Board
6. Principal
7. Campus staff

**Only required if the district enters into an SB 188 partnership.*

Board Comparison

SB 1882 Nonprofit Board



- Sets network vision
- Oversees multiple schools
- Manages multiple principals
- Approves nonprofit & school budgets
- Broad expertise for the network
- Fundraise for itself and the schools
- Represents network's community

Campus Advisory Board



- Sets school vision
- Oversees one school
- Does not manage staff
- Advises on school budget
- Specific expertise for the school
- Fundraise for the school
- Represents school's community

Why is this worth the trouble?

What if your campus advisory board...

- Recruited 10 businesses to offer **paid summer internships** for your students.
- Found 5 neighborhood residents to build and maintain a **community garden**.
- Raised \$10,000 a year to pay for **student field trips**.
- Created a partnership with Rackspace to build an annual STEM-focused **project-based learning competition**.
- Led the process to **hire your next principal** and made sure that person understands and supports your charter.

Why is this worth the trouble?

What if your campus advisory board included...

- An **architect** who helped monitor school construction projects.
- A retired **educator** who mentored new teachers.
- A **marketing** expert who upgraded your school's recruitment flyers and expanded your social media presence.
- The chair of your **neighborhood association** who could channel local residents' ideas and concerns to the school.
- The **owner of a nearby restaurant** who convinced local businesses to give 10% discounts to your staff and families.

Your Campus Governance Structures

In 2 minutes or less, please share the following:

1. What campus governance structures do you have now (formal and informal)?
2. How well are these structures working for your school?

How can you improve these structures?

Group Activity (10 minutes)

1. Review your response to Question #3.
2. **Write down 3 things you'd like to change or improve.**

Examples:

- More feedback or representation from X stakeholder group
- Meetings themselves – number, length, productivity, follow up, etc.
- Better alignment with other groups or initiatives
- Sharper focus on specific issues or challenges (academic outcomes, teacher engagement, fundraising, mentorships, parent involvement)

Define the Role of your Campus Board

Group Activity (15 minutes)

Begin writing your answer to Question 17.A.

- What will be the role of this group?
- What purpose will it serve and how will it benefit the school and its community?
- How will the board engage with and be responsive to families and other stakeholders?
- Choose a name for the group that aligns to its role and purpose.

QUESTIONS?