

Why offer special training for full boards?

"A board that models organizational learning in its own practices can make an enormous difference to the school system and to its members."

— Peter Senge,
Schools That Learn

- No one is born knowing how to be a good school board member or an integral part of school governance team. You need educational opportunities to learn the ins and outs of education leadership and your role in raising student achievement.
- Many of the decisions board members need to make involve complex information.
- Full board training strengthens board/superintendent teams and helps boards focus on the key issues that impact student success.
- Each election/appointment cycle brings new members onto boards – members who need to become familiar with the special dynamics of your school board and system, learn what their role is as board members and get up to speed on local issues and big picture education concerns.
- Board/superintendent governance teams need the knowledge and skills necessary to help create conditions that foster high levels of student achievement.
- Continuing education is as crucial for individual board members and full school boards as it is for teachers and other professionals entrusted with the education and supervision of schoolchildren.

Through the AASB School Board Member Academy, novice and veteran school board members and full boards can enjoy the priceless opportunity to develop, sharpen and gain confidence in their leadership and boardmanship skills.

Alabama Association of School Boards

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SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER ACADEMY
The School for School Board Members

High-achieving school boards care deeply about doing the right things for children. In high-achieving school systems, school board/superintendent teams have fairly amicable relationships. High-achieving school boards share an elevated view of students. High-achieving boards believe all students can succeed. They have a no-excuses policy. High-achieving school boards understand the conditions for productive change. They understand that these conditions should be connected to actions at the building and classroom levels.



School Governance Team
Training that Builds



High Achieving
School Systems for Students

We'll Come to You

Customized training helps create a sense of unity and strengthens board/superintendent teams!

Since 1949, the Alabama Association of School Boards has been in the business of helping local education leaders improve student achievement through leadership development and board training.

Our School Board Member Academy is designed to provide educational and skills-building opportunities for more than 800 school board members across the state.

A school board member's time is precious and demand for it is high. That's why we'll bring valuable training sessions to you!

AASB's customized, consultant-facilitated training for full boards allows the board and superintendent to learn and discuss how they might want to improve governance and leadership practices.

Your Bonus Member Services

As an AASB member service, full school boards can enjoy training on their turf at no additional cost. These customized introductory sessions are led by an AASB facilitator.

The sessions include:

- ▶ *Policy Making*
- ▶ *Superintendent Search Planning*
- ▶ *Selling a Tax Referenda*
- ▶ *Introduction to Board Service*

Earn AASB School Board Member Academy credit for full board training hours.

Customized Training

Intense 2- to 3-hour customized training for board/superintendent governance teams is also available in the form of interactive workshops worth credit hours (per participating school board member) in the AASB School Board Member Academy. The cost is \$750 for a 3-hour training session. Rates are discounted for multiple sessions.

Governing for Higher Student Achievement

- ▶ Identify expectations for student achievement
- ▶ Clarify the role of the board and superintendent
- ▶ Define the difference between governance and operations
- ▶ Learn how to use student achievement data to set goals

Team Building for Effective Boardmanship

- ▶ Define a code of conduct
- ▶ Learn how the board/superintendent relationship affects the board's ability to govern
- ▶ Clarify the role of the individual board member in teamwork

Board Meetings that Matter

- ▶ Agenda setting that allows more time to focus on student achievement
- ▶ How to agreeably disagree and become more confident in decision-making
- ▶ Clarify the role of the board president in leading the board
- ▶ Tips for running effective meetings

Understanding School Finance

- ▶ Learn school funding terms, concepts and sources
- ▶ Understand legal aspects of school funding and budgeting
- ▶ Define accountability and ensure resources are aligned with student achievement goals

Governance and Ethics

- ▶ Define the difference between governance and day-to-day operations
- ▶ Identify the responsibilities of the board and superintendent
- ▶ Learn how to avoid conflict of interest, open meeting violations and executive session breaches in confidentiality

Other Topics Can Include:

- ▶ *Defining Board/Superintendent Expectations*
- ▶ *Planning and Goal Setting*
- ▶ *And more!*

*Schedule a Field Service:
Contact AASB
Board Development
toll-free
1.800.562.0601*

Board Self-Evaluation

School board evaluation can be used to help raise student achievement. Effective evaluations help full boards set a course of action for themselves and serve as an accountability tool boards can use to stay on track.

AASB offers a self-evaluation instrument at no charge. More can be gained from a deeper analysis and a consultant-facilitated discussion of the results, which is available for \$400.

Board Self Evaluation

- ▶ Learn the role of the board
- ▶ Identify strengths and weaknesses
- ▶ Develop an action plan for improvement if needed

Develop your capacity to lead your system to higher achievement!