

HOW BOARDS SUCCEED

Boards succeed when members have a good understanding of the organization and their role. The nominating committee should provide an accurate interpretation of responsibilities to potential nominees. The President should provide an orientation for all officers at the beginning of each term of office.

Boards succeed when they have a well-planned orientation for new and old members. Experienced board members need an annual update on the organization's work and accomplishments. New board members need to be introduced to the procedures of the board. All board members need to reflect on future plans in a positive atmosphere.



Boards succeed when they are neither too small nor too large. It is hard to conceive of a board getting the job done if it is simply too small and equally difficult to picture a successful board weighed down with too many members.

Boards succeed when they have established standing committees. Standing committees shall have an approved plan of work and shall operate throughout the school year.

Boards succeed when they have a long-range plan. A year-long plan provides an overall view of where the PTA is going. It ensures the continuity of programs and projects undertaken by the PTA.

Boards succeed because they have a process for self-evaluation. At least once a year the board shall review and evaluate the goals, accomplishments and problems of each committee and officer. This annual process should be tied to the long-range planning process. The review should form the basis for the annual report.

Boards succeed when they have provisions for eliminating nonproductive members. The Nominating Committee shall evaluate the participation and interest of board members and make appropriate recommendations for election. Between elections, organizations shall have a process in place to deal with nonproductive members.

Boards succeed when they have a planned rotation. Rotation prevents the ingrown possessiveness that sometimes occurs on self-perpetuating boards. New members bring innovative ideas and promote growth of the organization.

Boards are successful because of an effective Nominating Committee. The decisions made by the Nominating Committee determine who will lead the next group. This committee should be well organized, have a time schedule, and a planned working procedure.